MARVEL COMICS

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THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS™

Based on the Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry.

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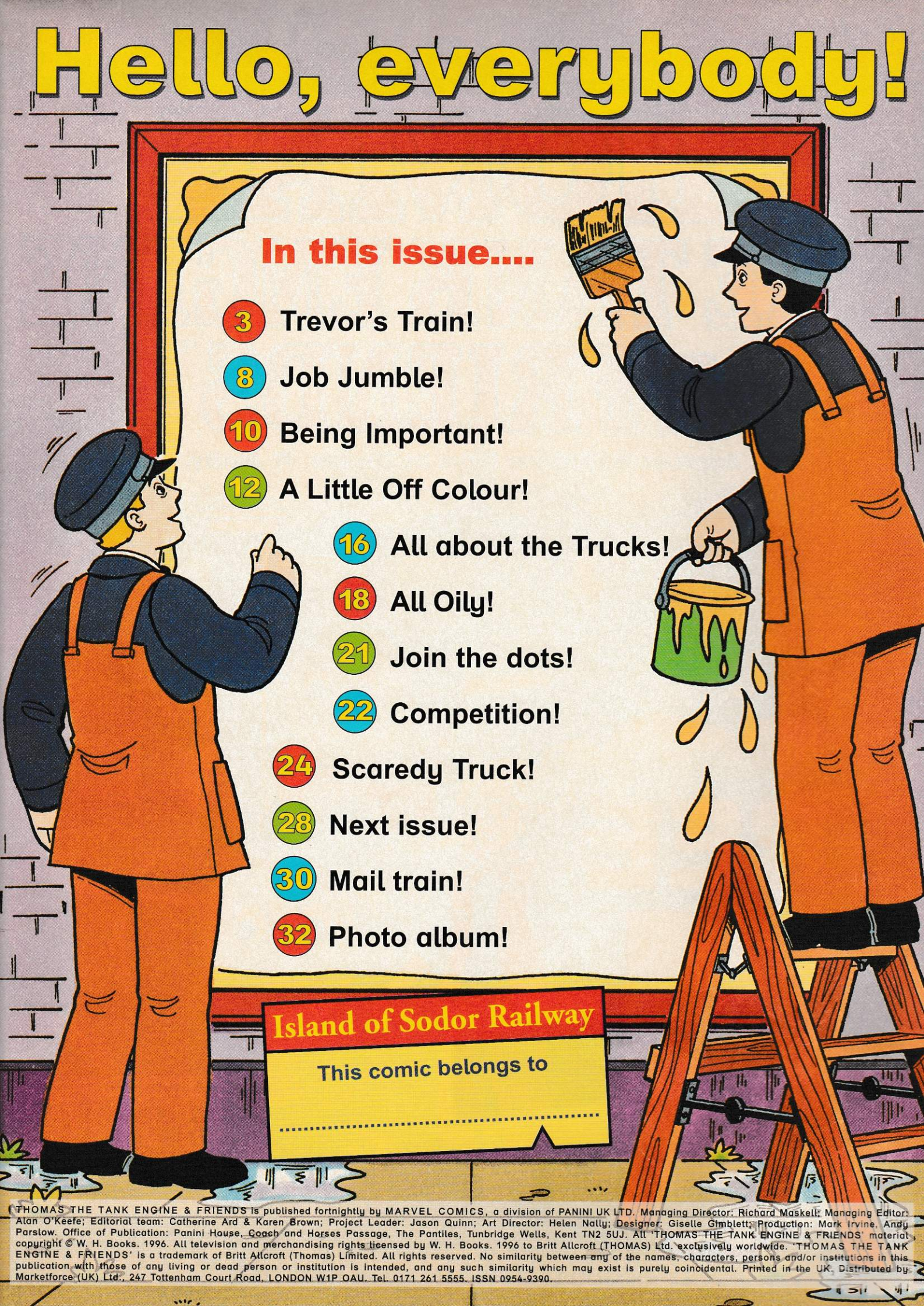
Super Stories! Great Games! Fun Colouring!

Hello, everybody!



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Island of Sodor Railway

This comic belongs to

.....

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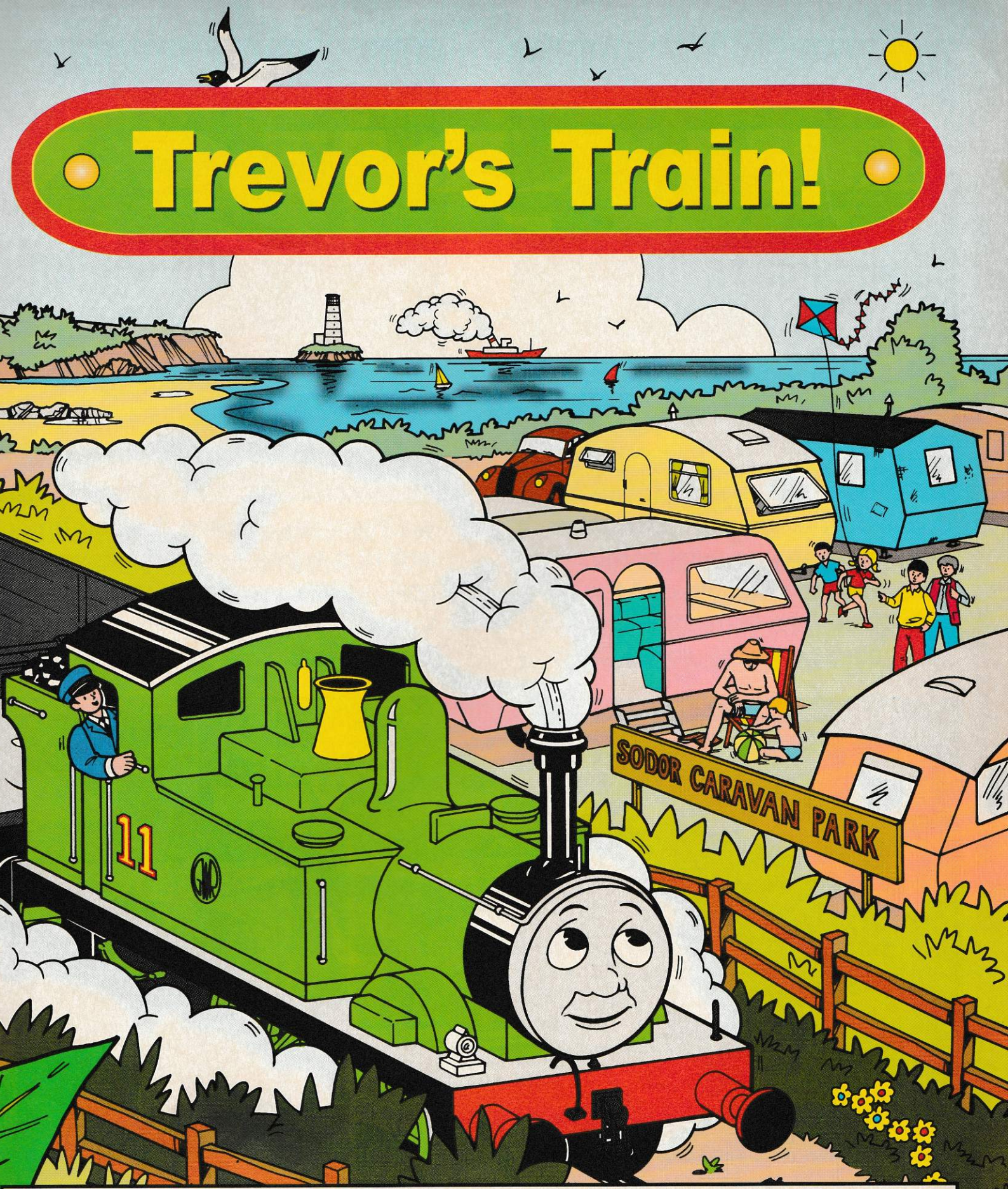
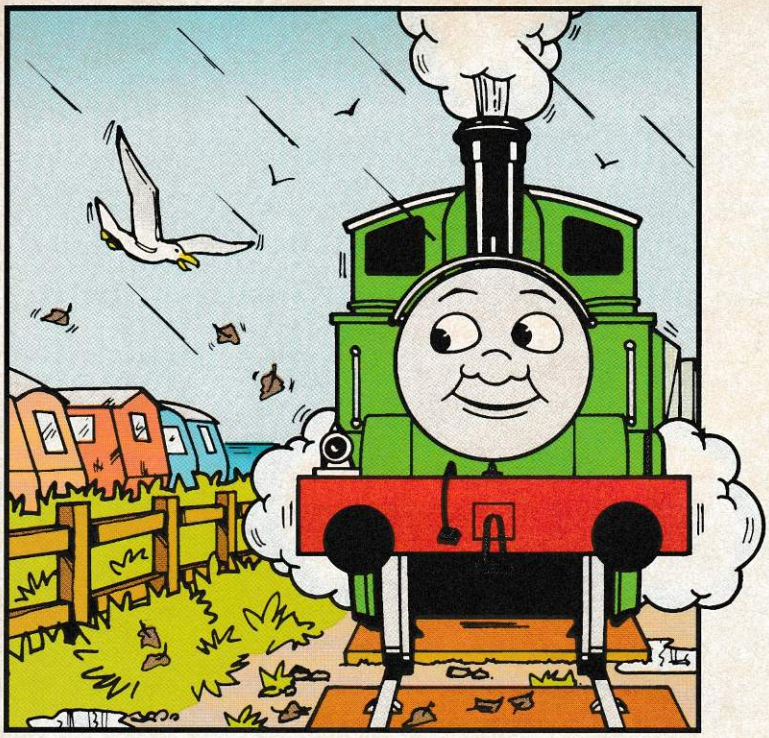
Trevor's Train!

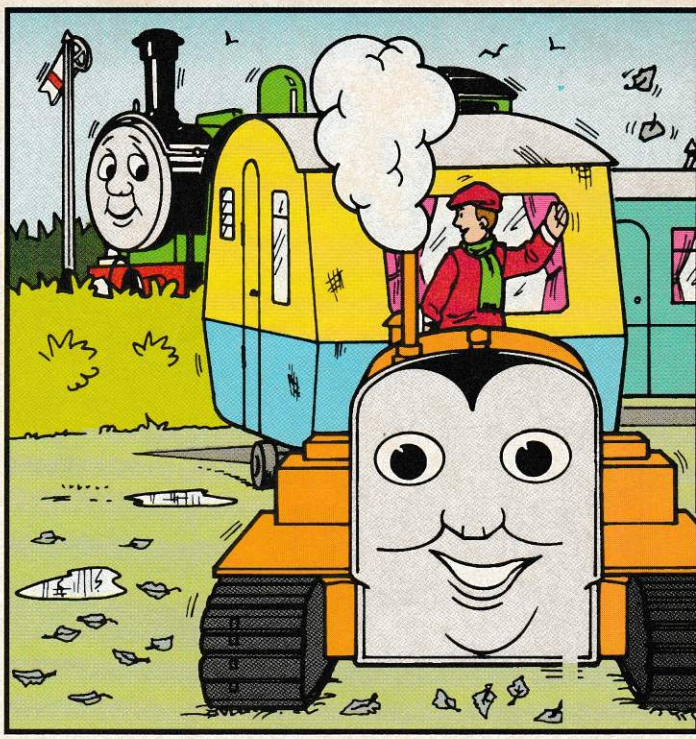


1. Oliver enjoyed working on Duck's branch line beside the sea. "I can visit the coast every day. It's almost like being on holiday," he thought happily as he puffed along.

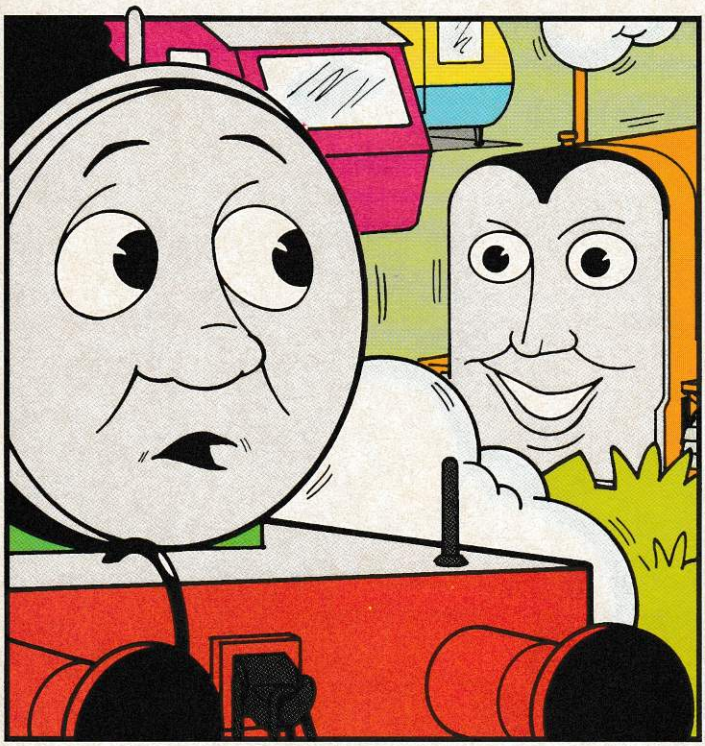
2. Oliver always passed a caravan park. In the summer, holidaymakers stayed in the caravans. Many waved to Oliver as he steamed by. "They're enjoying themselves, too!" he said.



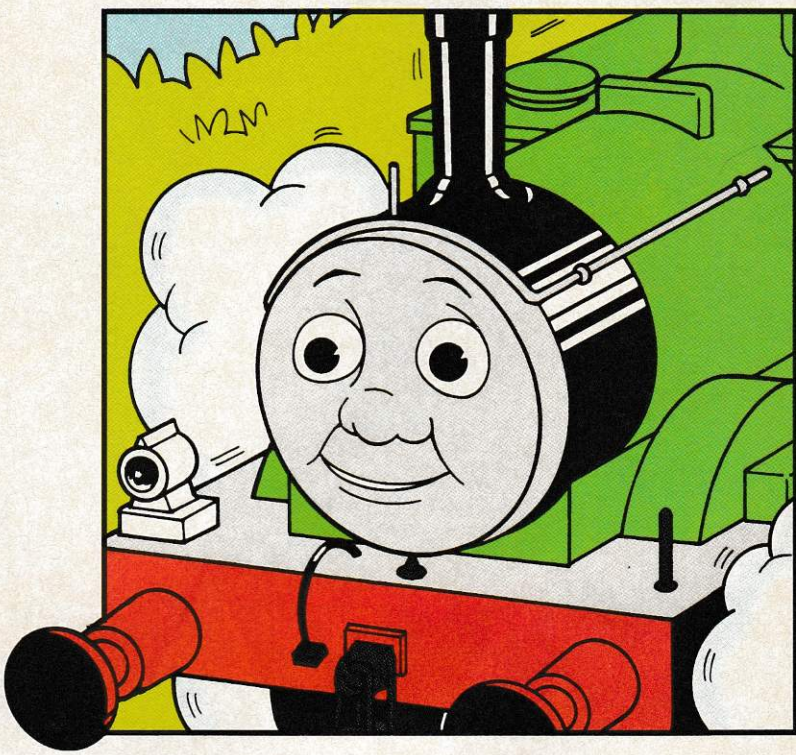
3. But as the summer faded into autumn, everyone went home. The caravans stood empty and the park was quiet. “Never mind! It’ll be full up again next year,” smiled Oliver.



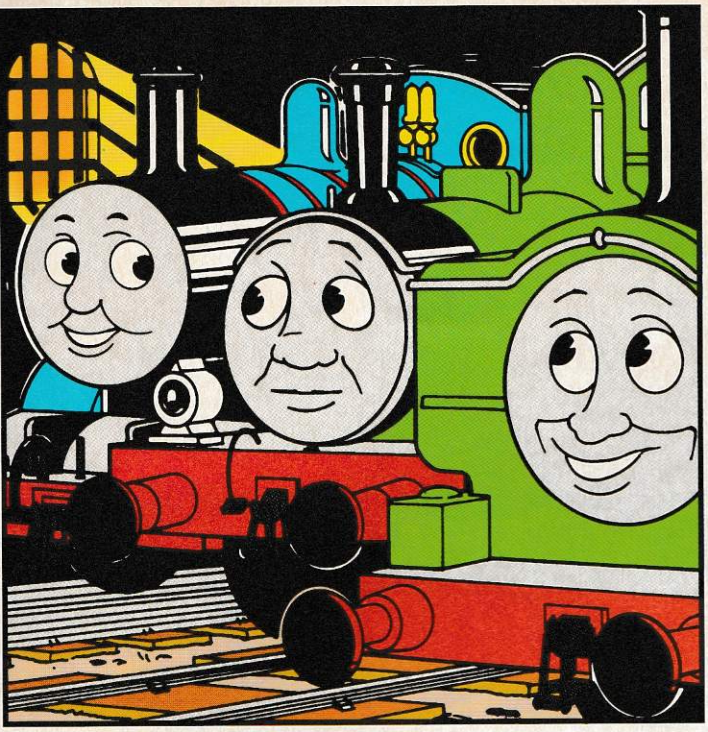
4. One chilly morning, he had to wait at a signal near the caravan park. Oliver heard a chugging sound. He spotted Terence the Tractor working in the caravan park.



5. Oliver was very surprised to see him. “Hello, Terence!” he called. “What are you doing here?” “Towing caravans!” said the tractor. “I’ve lots more to move after this one!”

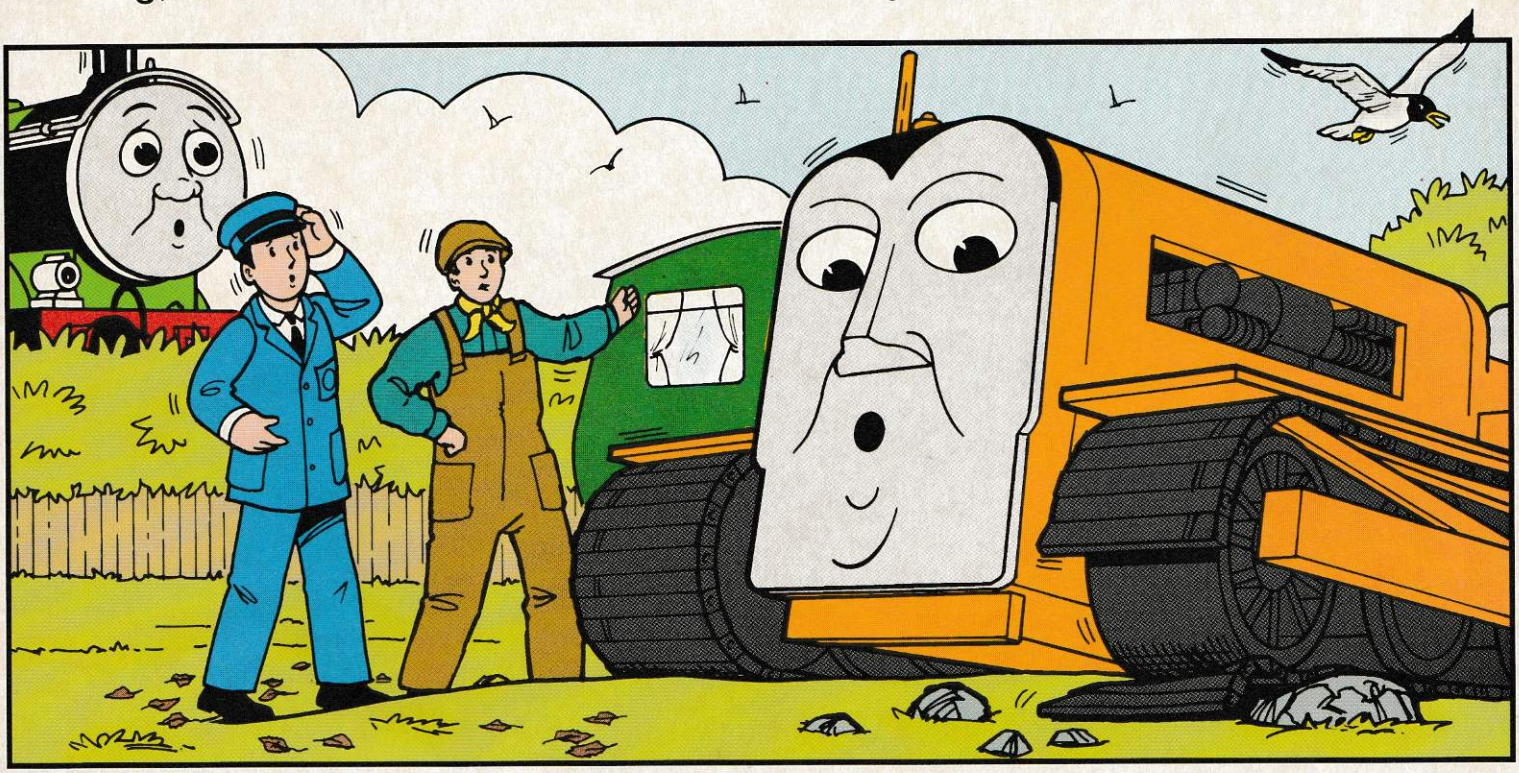


6. Some of the caravans were quite old. Terence was taking them away and pulling new ones into the park in their place. The signal changed and Oliver continued his journey.



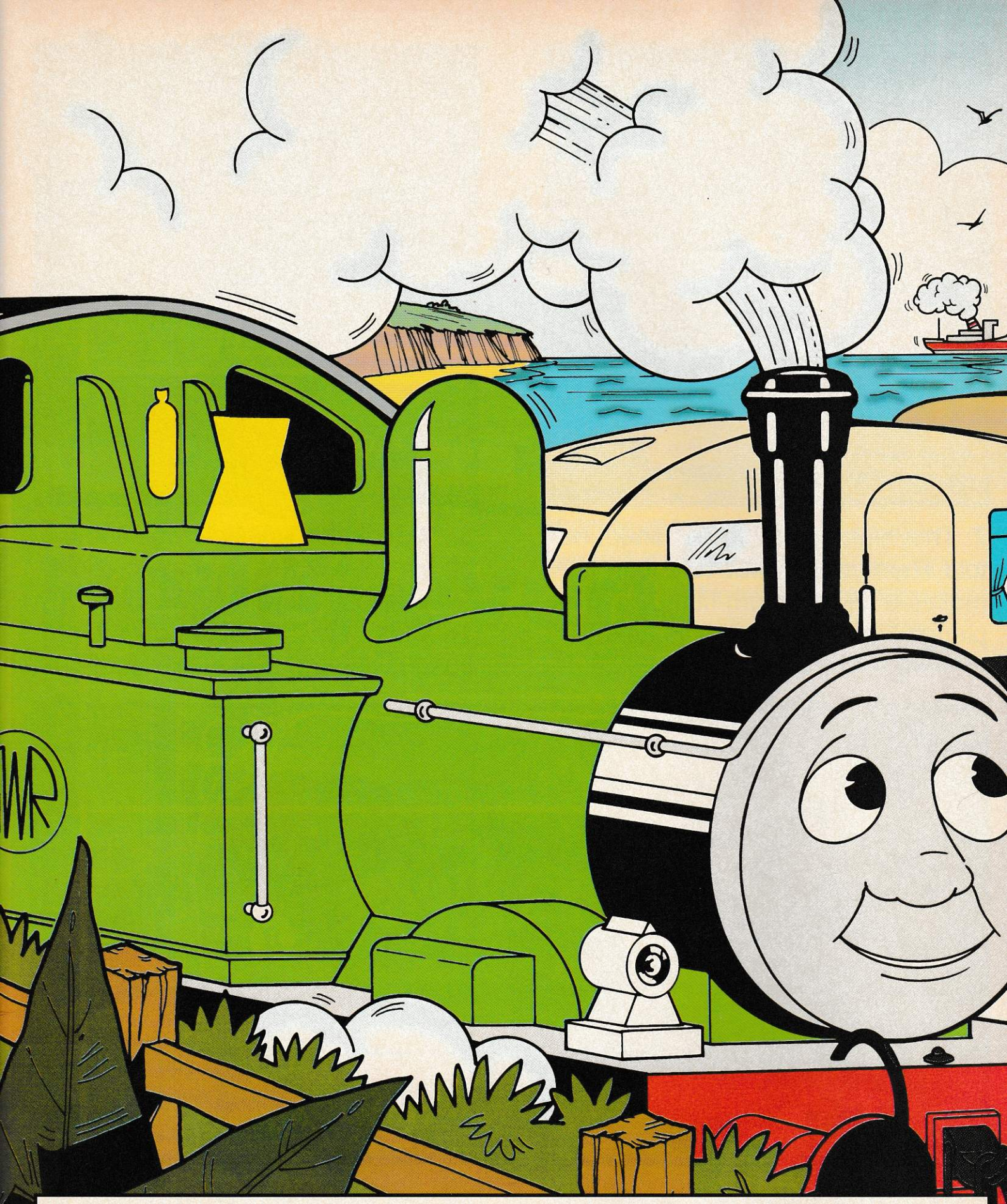
7. That night in the engine shed, he told Thomas all about Terence. "It makes a change from him pulling a plough," said Thomas. The next morning, Thomas met Trevor.

8. The traction engine stood sadly by his shed at the vicarage orchard. "I'll be alone all winter," he told Thomas. "I wish I could be kept busy taking trains, just like you!"



9. Meanwhile, Oliver saw Terence at the caravan park again. "There's so much to do," said the tractor. "I'll be here for weeks!" Suddenly, there was an odd noise and Terence stopped.

10. The park manager came over to see what was wrong. "Terence has broken a caterpillar tread," his driver explained. "How will I move the caravans?" asked the manager.



11. Later, at a junction, Thomas met Oliver and heard all about Terence's trouble. Then the little tank engine thought of Trevor and had an idea. He spoke to the Fat Controller.

12. Soon, everything was arranged. When Oliver passed the caravan park, who should he see towing a caravan but Trevor! "I'm taking over the work here for Terence," he said.

13. The park manager was happy with the traction engine who was very strong. Trevor was asked to pull the caravans that had to go for refitting during the winter months.

14. Terence did not mind at all. He happily went on ploughing instead! Now Trevor was no longer lonely. "Why, I almost look like a real train now!" he laughed happily.

Job Ju

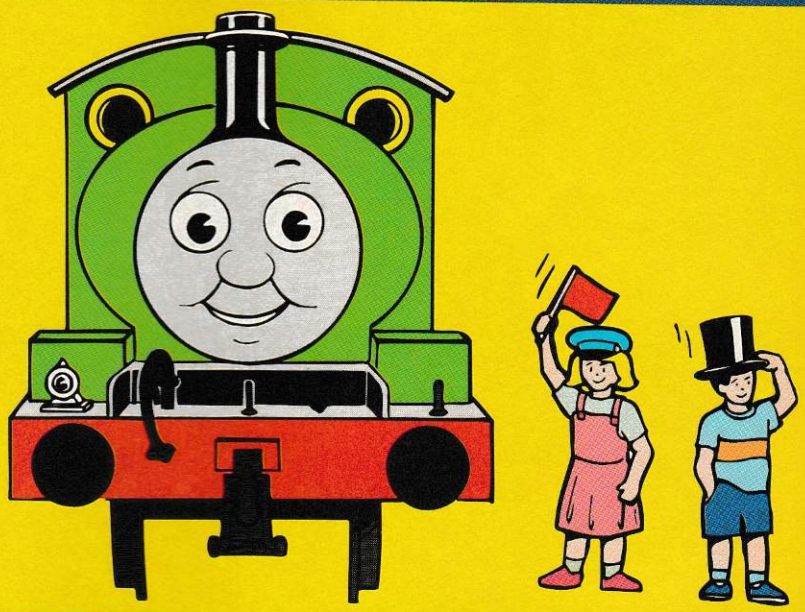
Can you see who's in a muddle?

Edward takes passengers in a truck!

True ☐ False ☐

Stephen and Bridget run the railway!

True ☐ False ☐

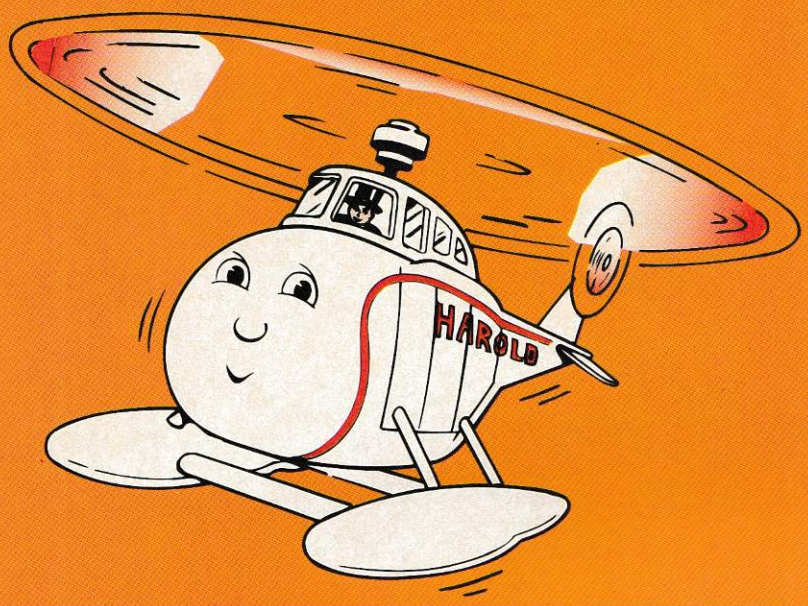


Toby collects rock from the quarry!

True ☐ False ☐

umble!

Simply put a tick in the correct box below.

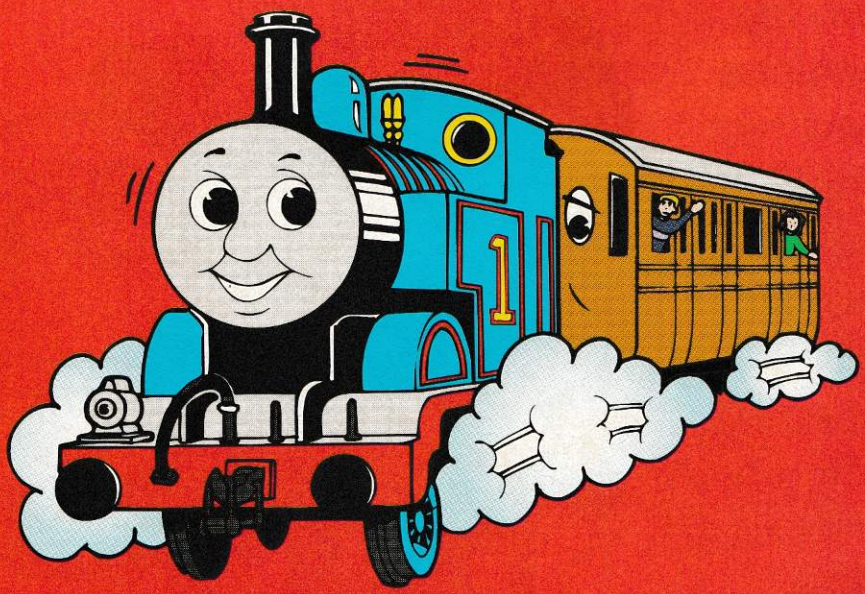


The Fat Controller flies Harold!

True ☐ False ☐

Thomas pulls passengers in Annie!

True ☐ False ☐

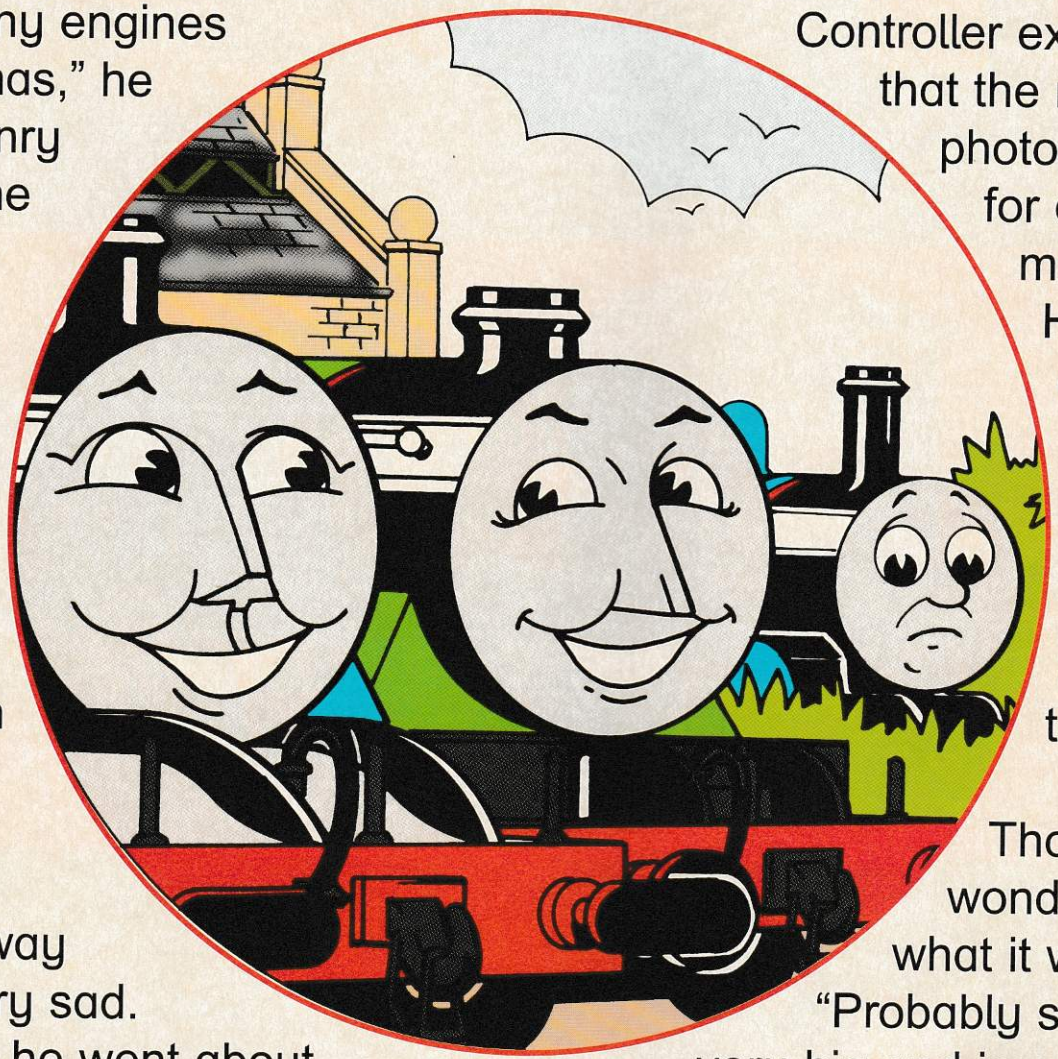


Lady Hatt washes all the engines!

True ☐ False ☐

Being Important

Thomas was outside the engine shed one morning, when he heard Gordon and Henry chatting. "How proud I am to be a big engine," puffed Gordon. "How nice it is to know you're so special! I feel sorry for little tiny engines like Thomas," he heard Henry say, as the two big engines saw him chuffing by. "But we can't all be special!" They both chuckled. Poor Thomas slipped away feeling very sad.



All day he went about his work without any real interest. "Since nothing I do is important, it hardly seems worth bothering about!" sighed Thomas glumly, as he dragged another row of grumpy trucks up the line rather reluctantly.

Later, at the Main Station, Thomas saw an old man on the platform with a very big camera. It was on a three-legged stand, called a tripod. The Fat Controller explained that the man was a photographer for a famous magazine. He had come to take pictures of a very special thing on the island!

All day Thomas was wondering what it was. "Probably something very big and important," he quietly sulked to himself.

Thomas was still thinking about the very special thing later that day when he was told to go along a new stretch of track in

the countryside. To his surprise he saw a new station had been built there. What astonished him even more was that it was such a TINY station!

"If a big engine like Gordon blinked when he was going by, he would miss it!" he remarked. Thomas' driver explained that it was to serve such a tiny village, that trains would only stop at the little station twice a week.

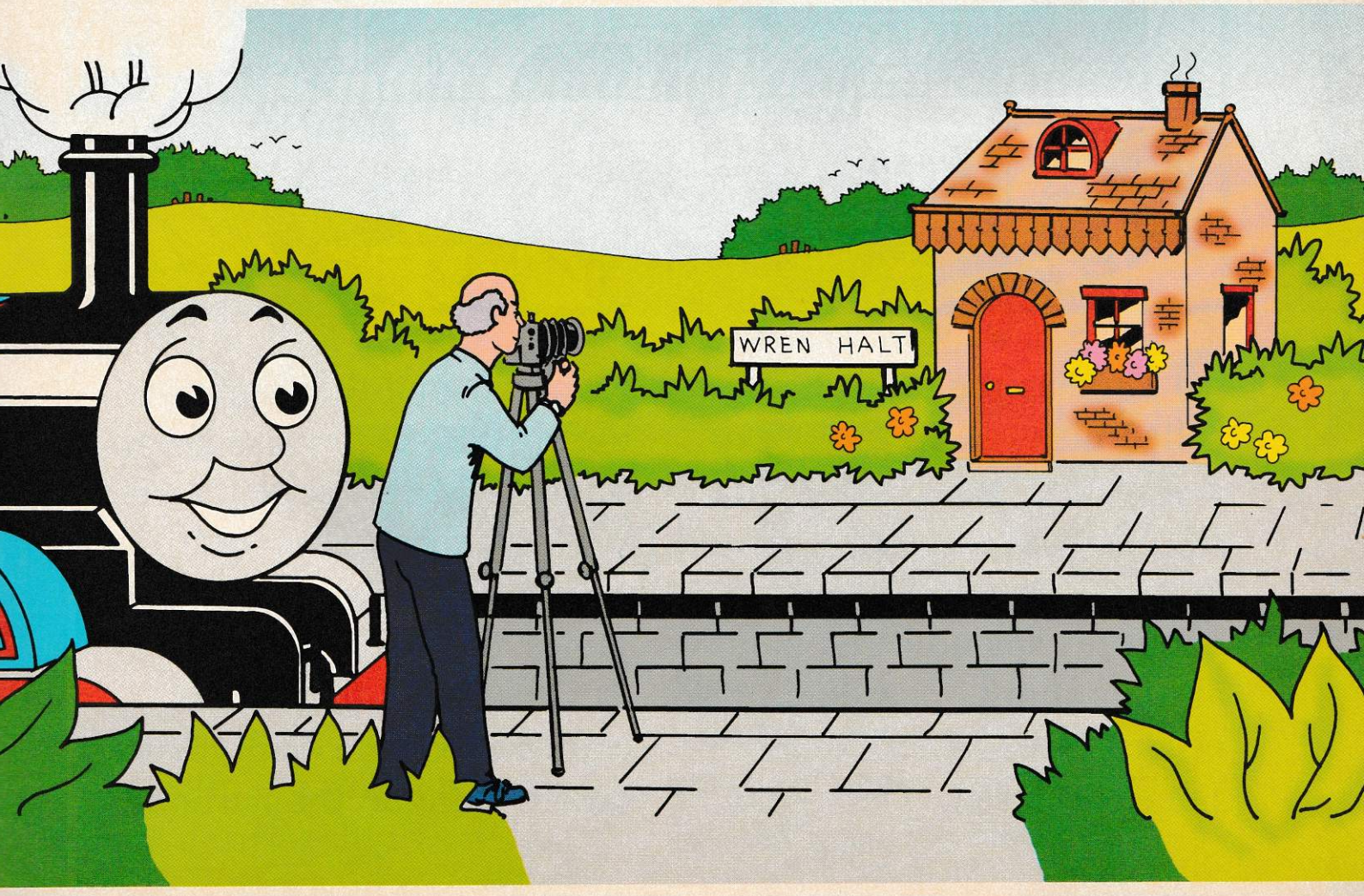
When Thomas came to a halt there, he was surprised to see that the photographer was taking pictures of the tiny station!

"This station is of special interest," the photographer explained to Thomas' driver, "because it's the very smallest station in the whole country!"

Thomas was delighted to hear that something could be important because it was small as well as big. This gave the little engine something to think about.

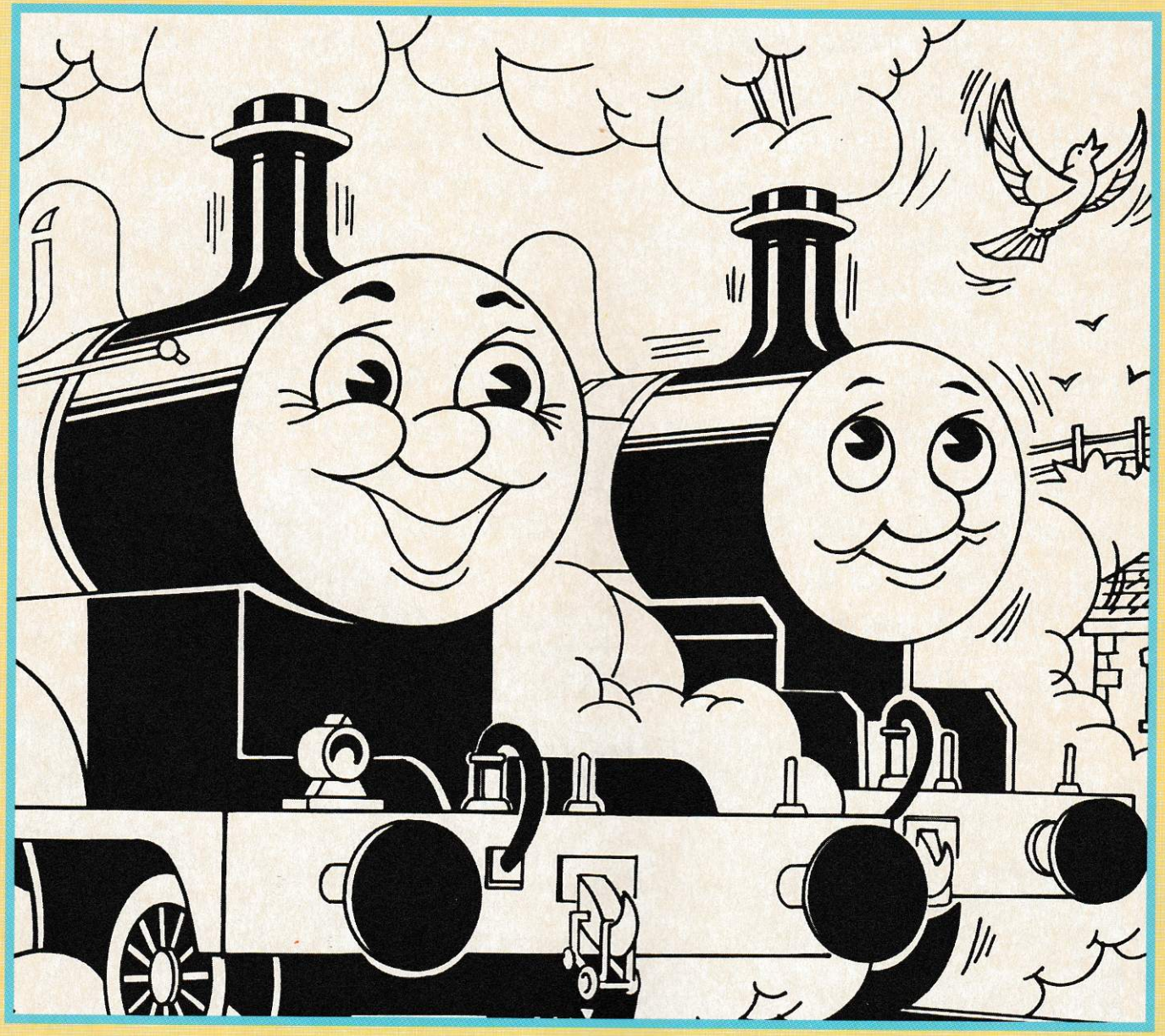
Back in the engine shed, he told the others all about it. That night, Henry apologised to Thomas for pointing out how small he was that morning. "Don't worry about it," smiled Thomas, in an important way. "In fact sometimes I wish I was even smaller!"

THE END

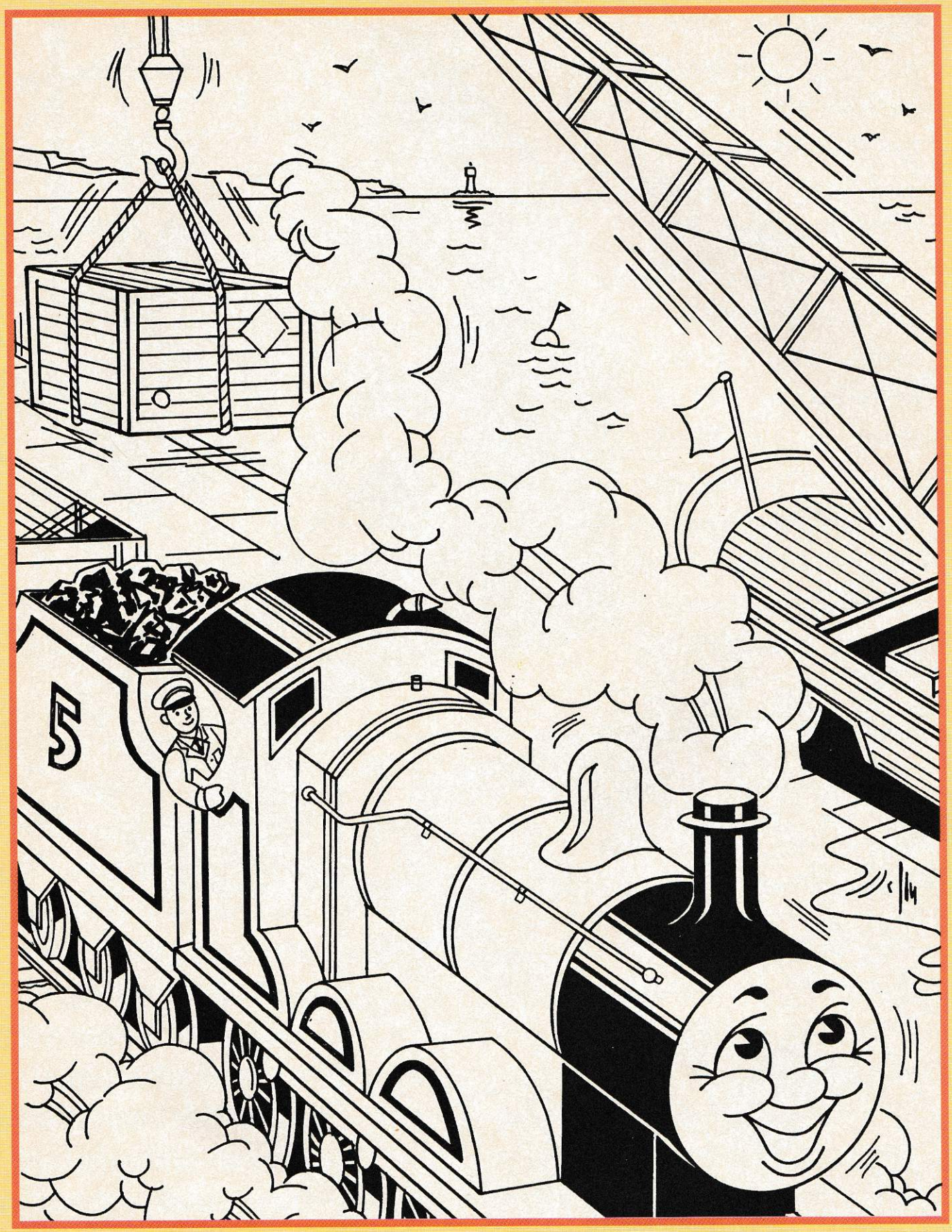


A read & colour story

A Little Off Colour!

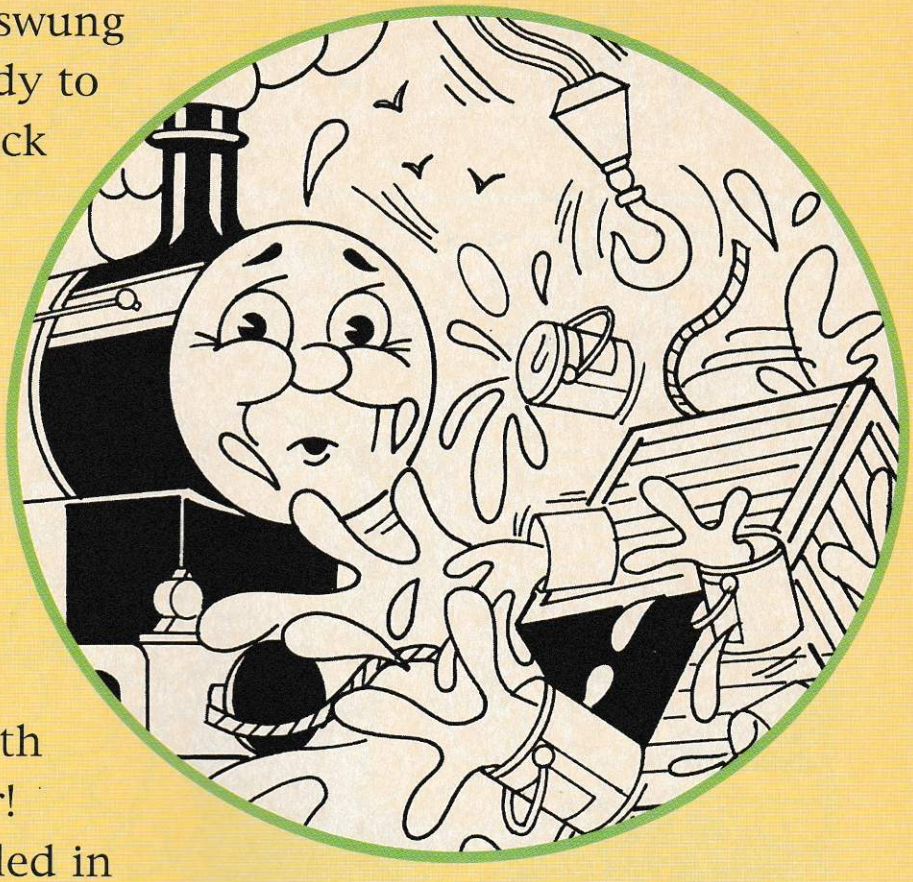


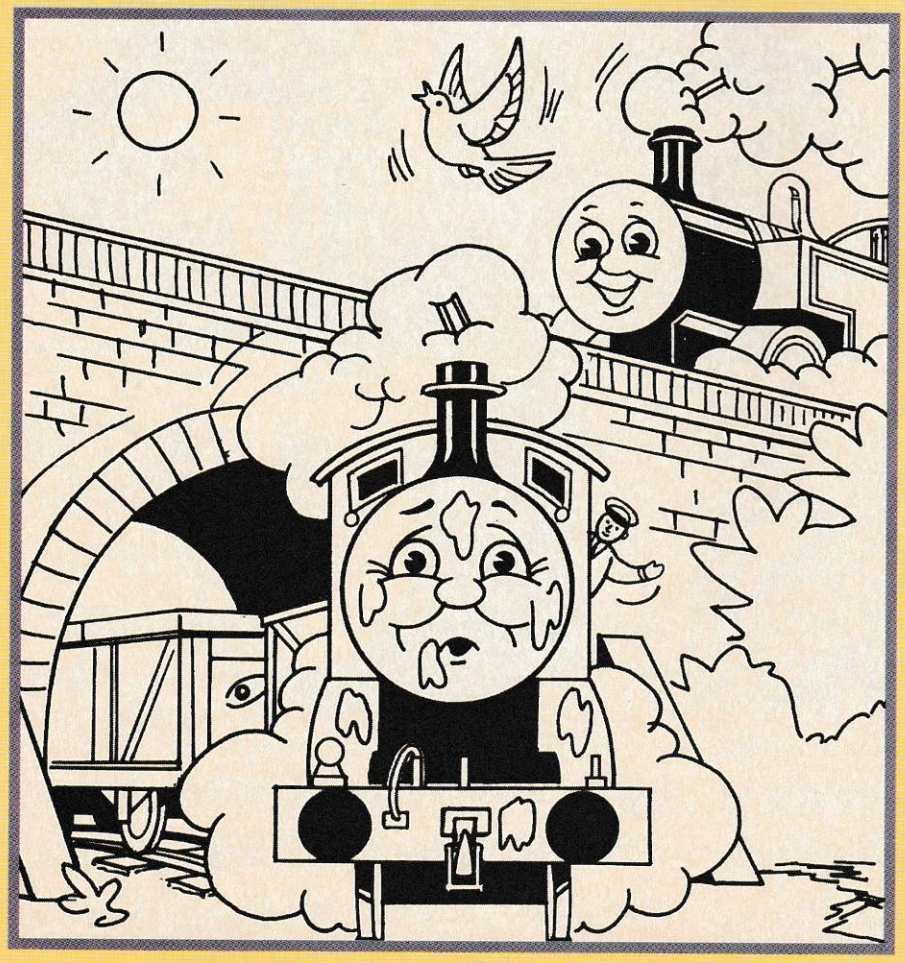
1 Thomas the tank engine rolled his eyes up to the sky and sighed. He was standing next to James in the yard, and, as usual, James was talking about his splendid red paint and his shiny brass dome. "No other engine looks like me," James declared. "Don't you wish you could change your boring blue coat sometimes, Thomas?" he went on. "I wish you'd change the record!" groaned Thomas, fed up with James' boasting. When his driver arrived, James was coupled to some empty trucks before going to the harbour.



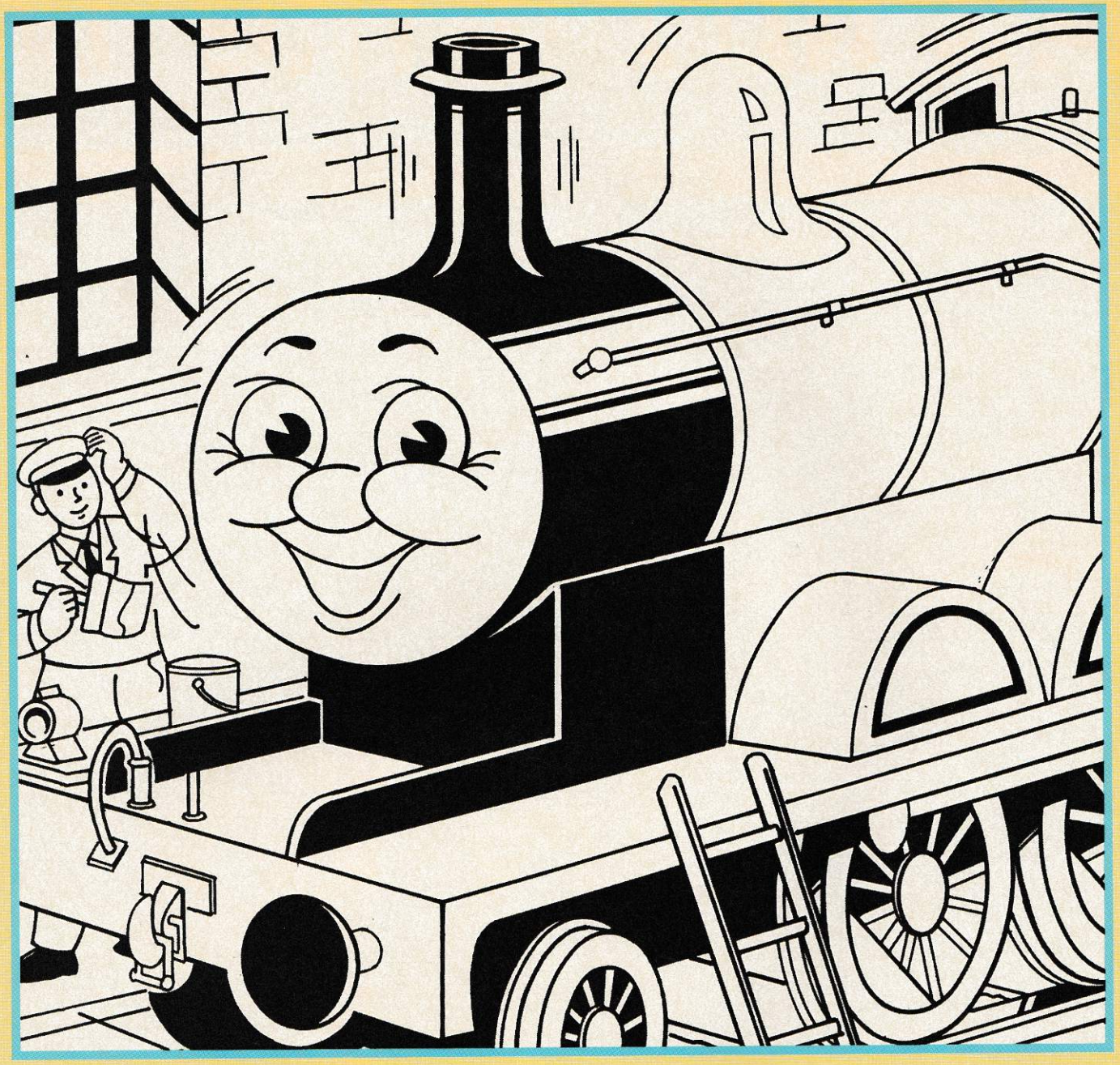
2 On the quay-side, James watched as the cranes loaded his train. Big wooden crates from a cargo ship were being lowered into his trucks. "I wonder what's in those crates," thought James, unaware that he was about to find out!

3 The last crate was swung across to the train, ready to be lowered into the truck behind James. Suddenly, the crane rope snapped. The crate crashed to the ground and split open. Inside, there were lots of tins of paint, and some of those split open too. James was showered with large splashes of colour! "Peeeeep!" James whistled in horror and surprise.





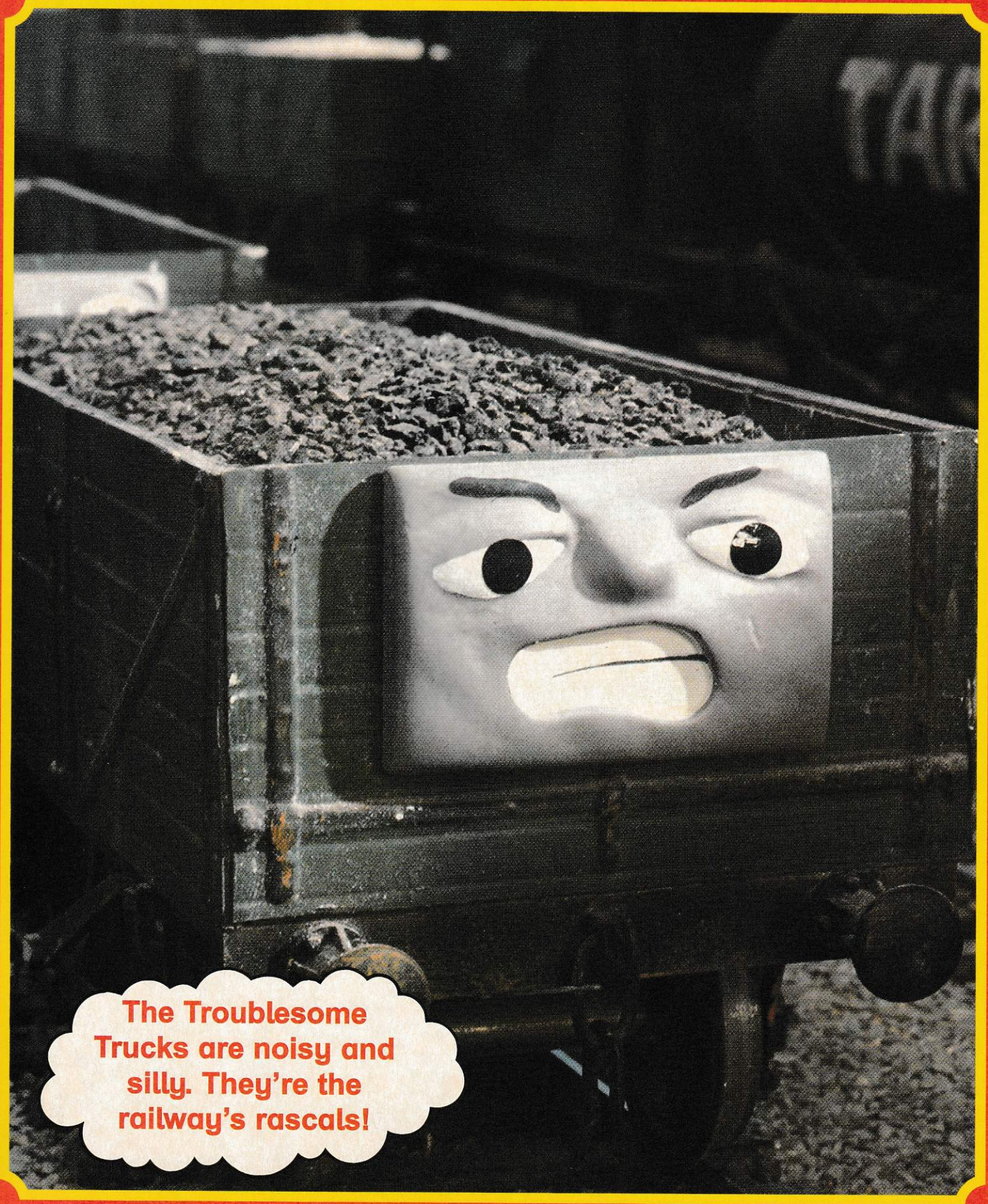
4 "My lovely red coat is ruined!" wailed James. "What a mess," agreed his driver. "But you can still pull the train, and it's time to go." Blushing and miserable, James puffed out of the harbour. Down the line, Thomas saw the embarrassed engine and laughed so much he thought his boiler would burst. "No other engine looks like you now!" he chuckled.



5 At last, James arrived in the goods yard. "Whatever happened?" the Fat Controller asked. After James' driver had explained, the Fat Controller smiled. "I think you look very cheerful, James. Perhaps you should stay like that?" James gulped. "Only joking!" the Fat Controller laughed. James was sent straight to the workshop. The painter rubbed him down with sand paper to remove the paint. James didn't mind - in fact it rather tickled! Then the painter began to apply a brand new coat of red paint. James felt much better. "I can't wait to show all the other engines how splendid I look again," he said smugly. The painter rolled his eyes and sighed!

The end

All about the Tro



The Troublesome Trucks are noisy and silly. They're the railway's rascals!

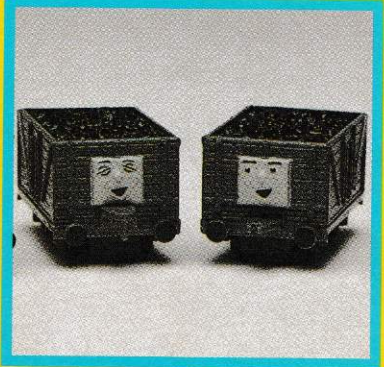
ublesome Trucks!

They take delight in causing trouble for whichever engine has to pull them!

The Trucks always complain when they have to pull gravel because it's itchy & scratchy!

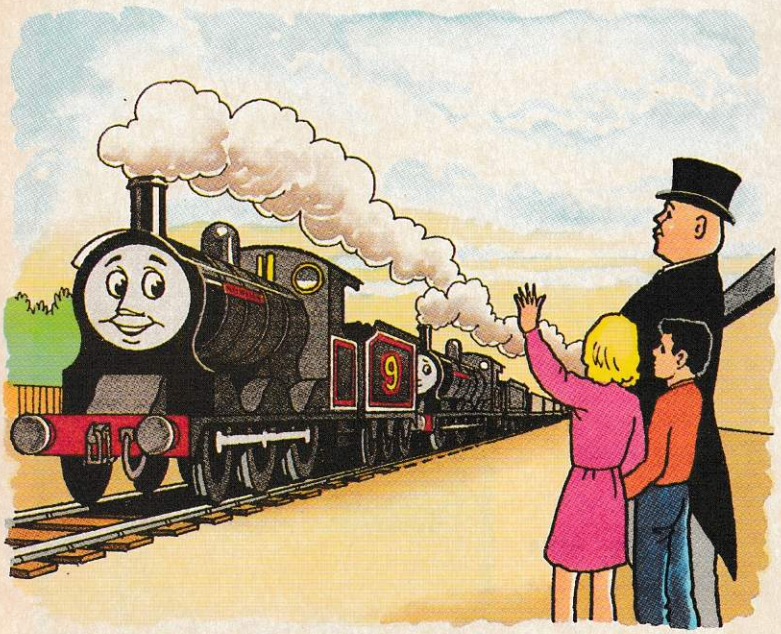
Win the Troublesome Trucks!

Five lucky winners will win two splendid model Trucks from the ERTL engine range! Just send a post card, with your name, age and address to: Thomas/Truck model competition, Marvel Comics, Panini House, Coach and Horses Passage, The Pantiles, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 5UJ. Closing date: 5th December 1996. The first five names out of our postbag after the closing date will win their very own Trucks!



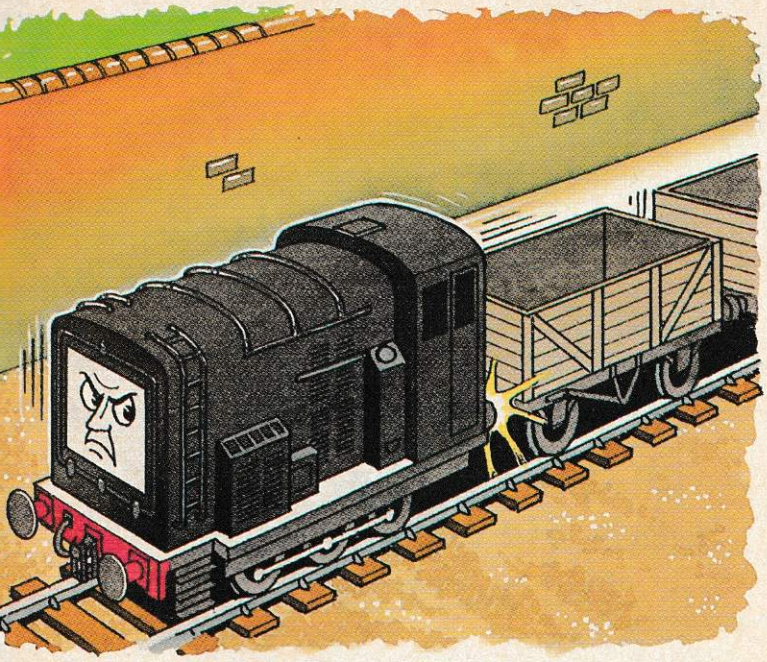
All Oily

Stephen and Bridget were at the Main Station with the Fat Controller. They watched as he gave all his engines their tasks for the day. "Thomas and Percy, you are to shunt trucks in the yard," he told them. "Of course, Sir," replied Thomas. "You can rely on us to do the job well," added Percy with a little "Peep!"



Next, the Fat Controller asked Gordon to take the Express. Then he sent Donald and Douglas, the Scottish Twins, to collect timber from the sawmill. "Both of you will need to pull the trucks because the timber will be very heavy," said the Fat Controller. "Och! We can do it, Sir!" replied the engines together.

Stephen and Bridget watched the engines happily go about their work. "They are very willing and helpful, Grandpa," said Stephen. "Of course! They're Really Useful Engines," smiled the Fat Controller.



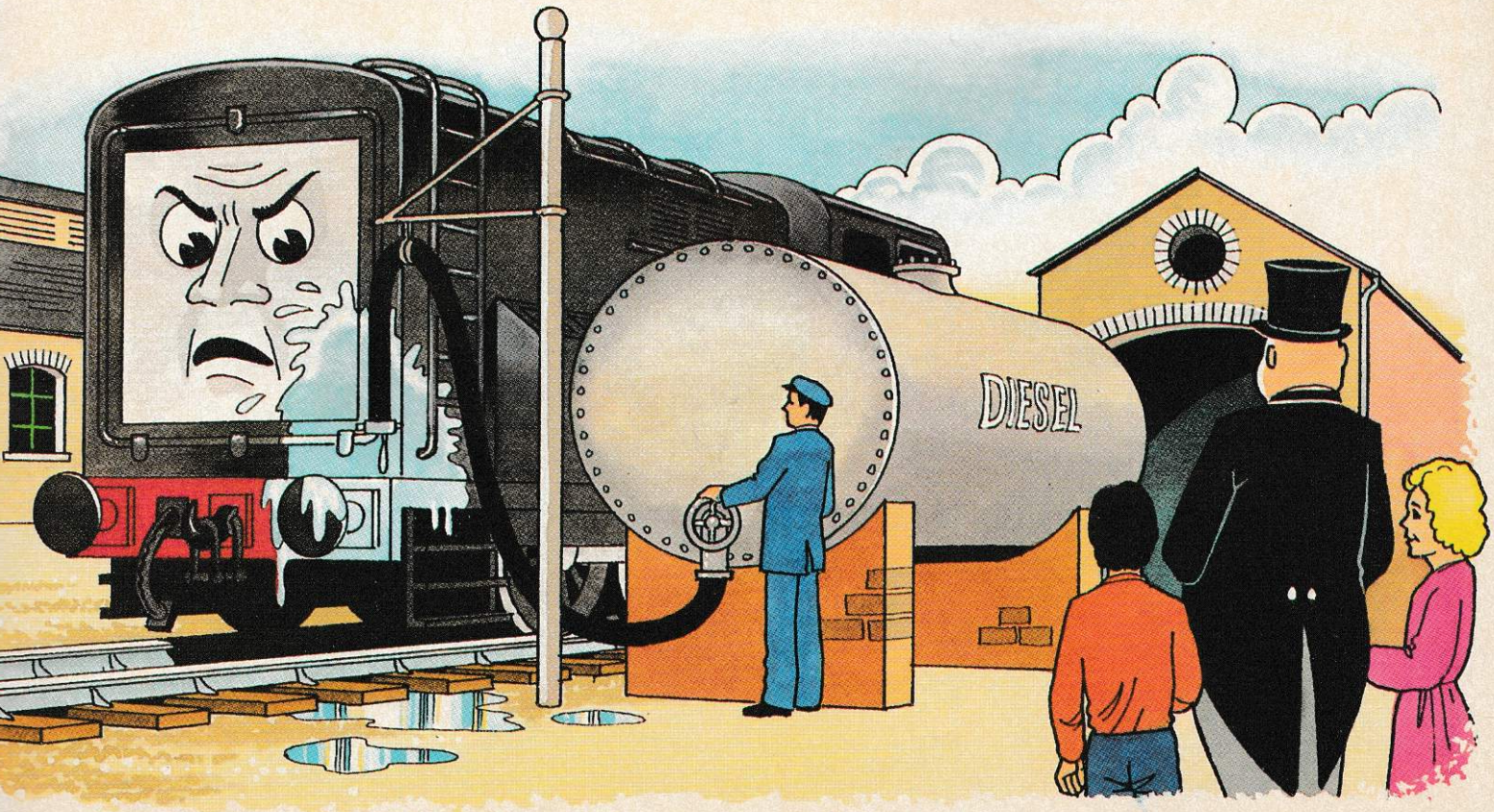
Soon Diesel arrived from the Big Harbour with a long line of trucks. He was going so fast that they rattled and rolled all over the place! Diesel pulled up very hard and they bumped into each other. "Be careful! Be careful!" cried the trucks, crossly.

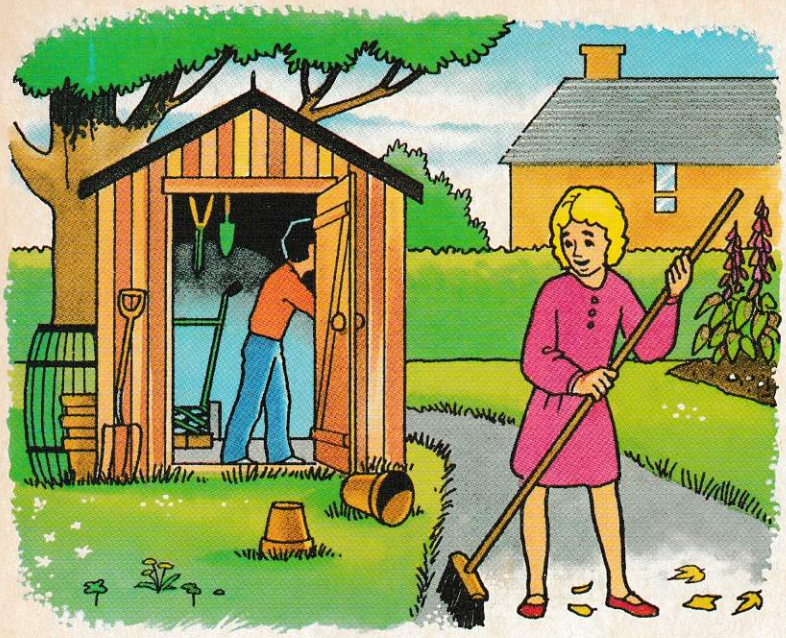
"I'll need you to take a goods train right away, Diesel," called the Fat Controller. "That's not fair! Can't someone else take it?" he replied, in his oily voice. "I do *all* the work around here!"

Diesel was still complaining as he rolled away to fill up with diesel oil. Some oil spilled out over him, by accident. "Oh bother!" he cried, as it splashed onto his face and over his wheels. He went on grumbling as he pulled away.

"Thank goodness the other engines aren't like Diesel," said Bridget. "I don't think he's Really Useful at all!" added Stephen. "Diesel can be rather bad-tempered sometimes," admitted the Fat Controller.

The next day, the children stayed at home while their





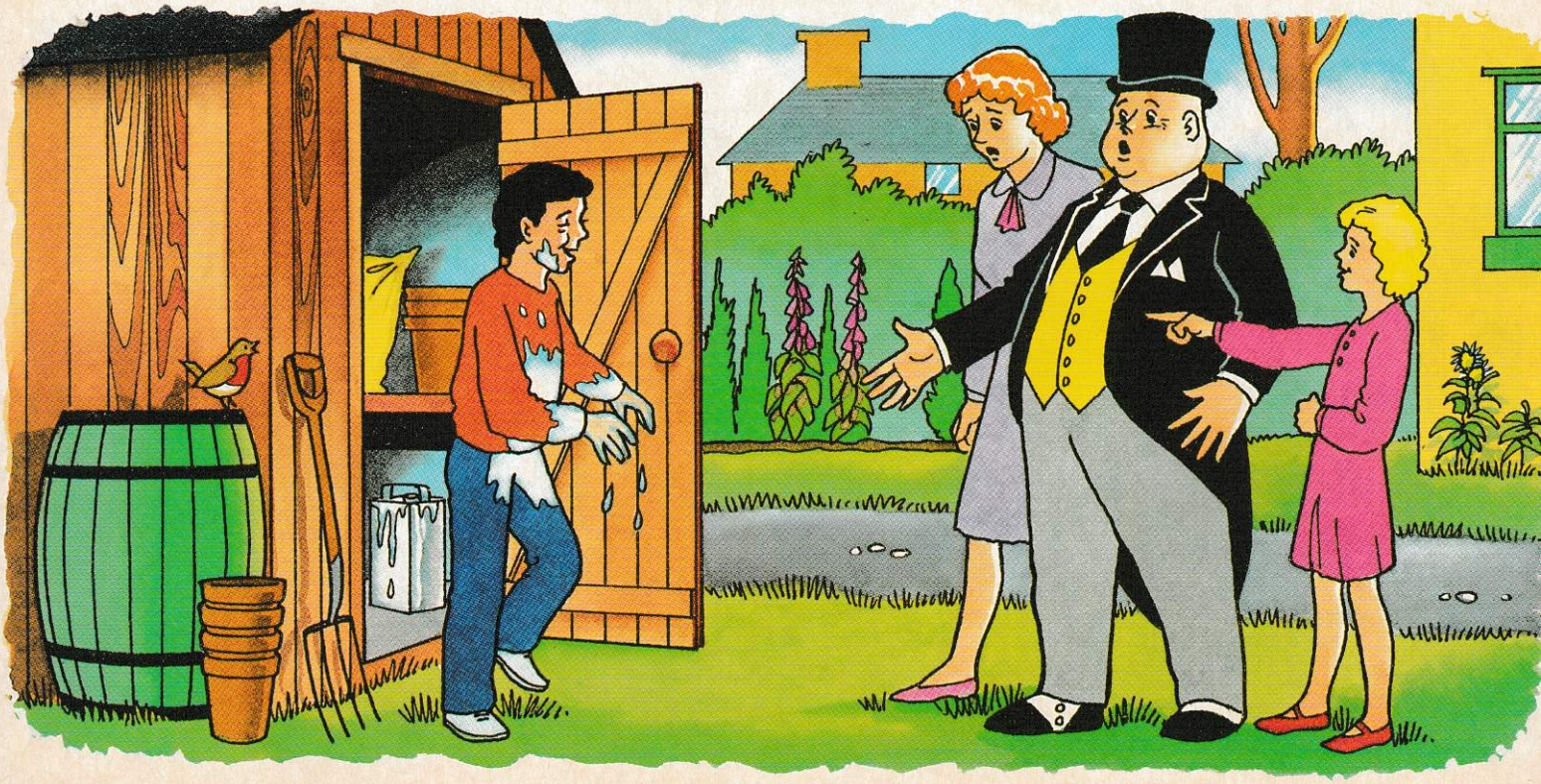
grandpa set off for the Main Station again. "We should be helpful, too," said Bridget. "What can we do?" Stephen asked his sister. Bridget fetched a broom from the garden shed. "You can tidy up all the flower pots in the shed, while I sweep the garden path," she replied. "Good idea," Stephen agreed.

They had almost finished tidying up by the time the Fat Controller came home for lunch. Lady Hatt told her husband how hard the children had been working all morning.

Suddenly, there came a cry from the shed. Stephen came out with oil all over his clothes and hands. He was very dirty. "I knocked over an oil can," he said, laughing. "Just look at the mess I'm in!" "We'll soon get you cleaned up," said Lady Hatt.

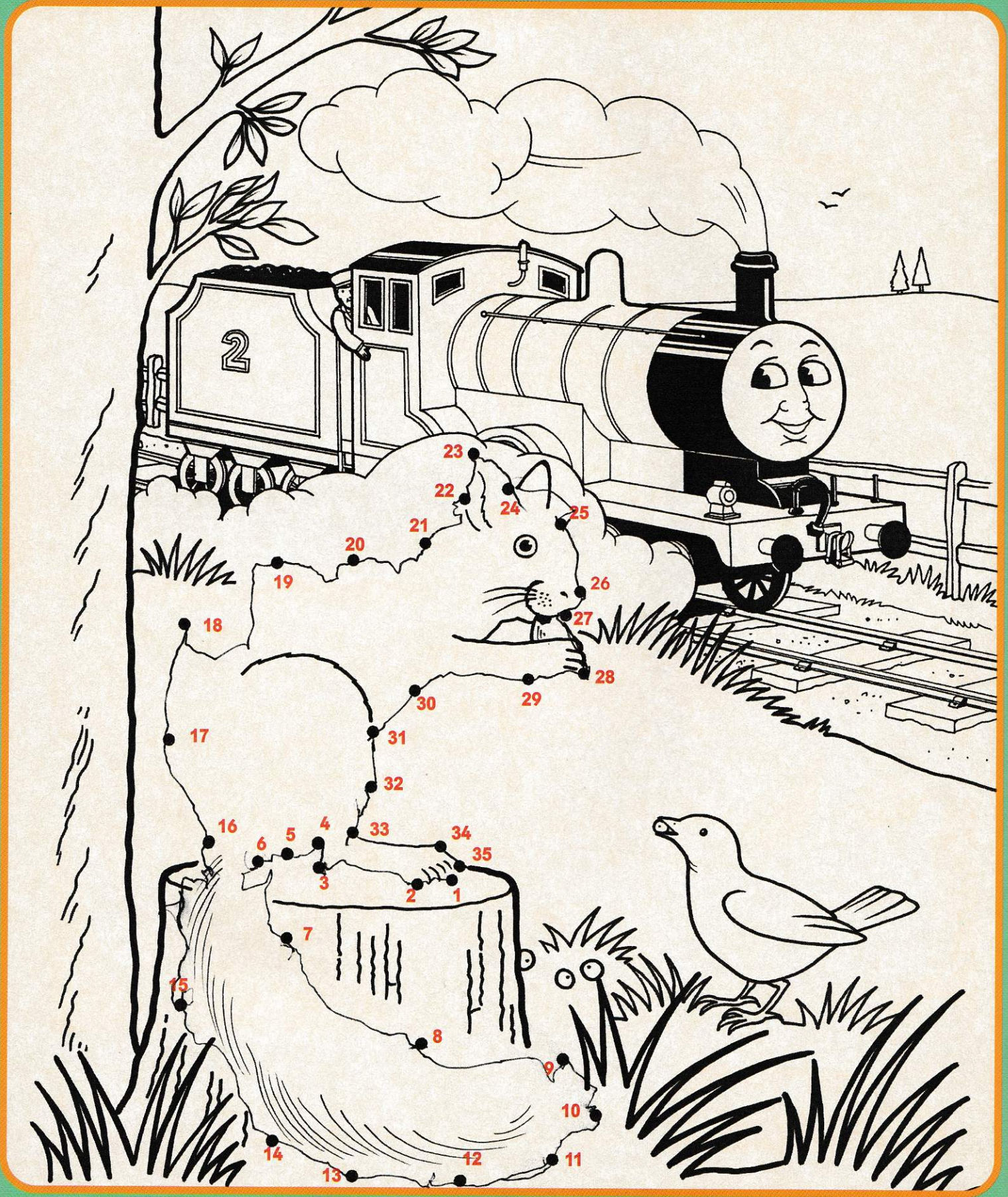
"We wanted to be Really Useful, like your engines," Bridget told the Fat Controller. "And so you are," he smiled. "But, for a moment, I was more like Diesel!" laughed Stephen.

THE END



Dot to dot!

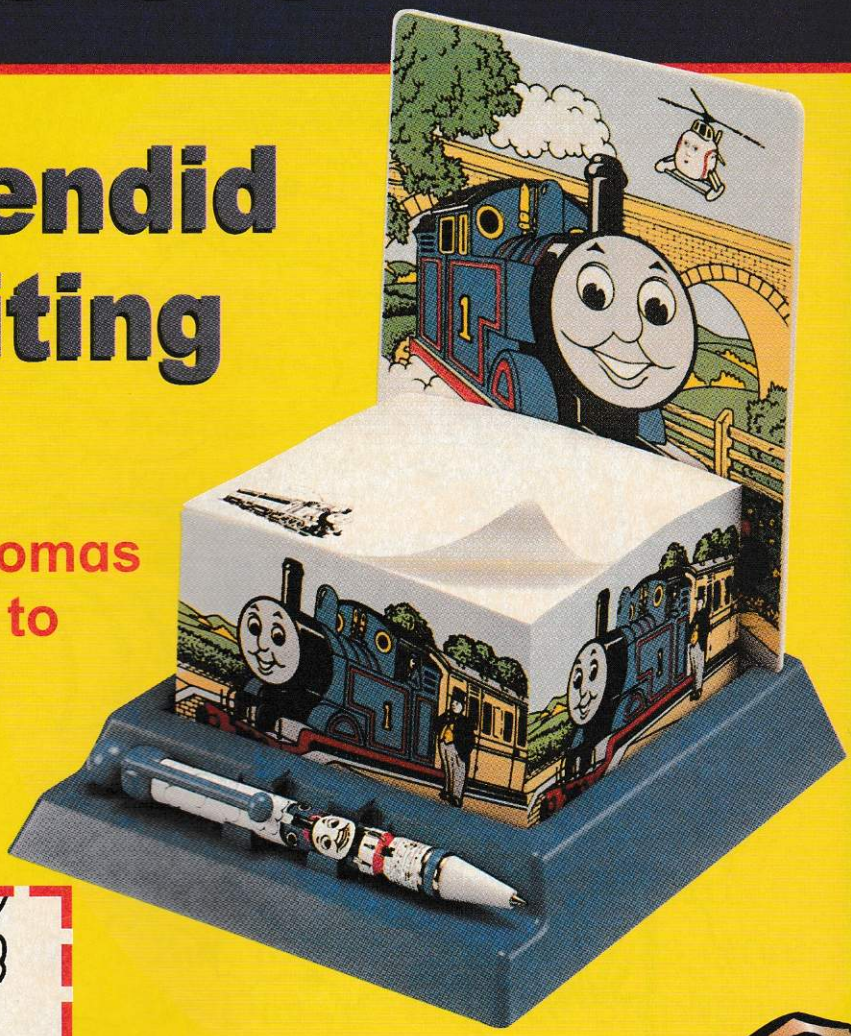
Edward's chuffing round the bend, can you see his furry friend?



When you have finished colour this page!

Competition fun!

WIN a splendid Thomas writing block!



We have 35 fantastic Thomas writing blocks and pens to give away!

To win, just colour-in the picture below:

Send your entry along with your name and address to; Thomas/Jotter competition, Heart Fashions & Designs, 37a High Street, Walsall Wood, W Midlands, WS9 9LR.

All entries must be received by 5th December 1996.

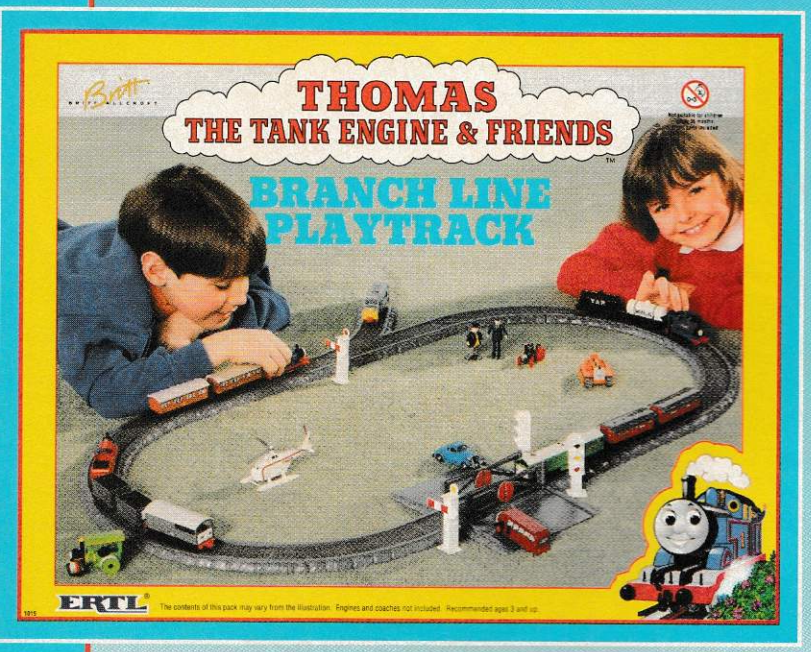
Heart Fashions and Designs stock over 150 Thomas products in their mail order catalogue. For your FREE copy, telephone 01543 377182, quoting reference 238, or write to them at the competition address above.

This competition is open to all readers other than employees and their families of participating companies. We cannot accept any responsibility for prizes lost or damaged in the post. The Editor's decision is final, and no correspondence shall be entered into.

NEW

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS™

PLAYTRACK



Branch Line Playtrack

Turntable Playtrack

0-3

Not suitable for children under 36 months. Diecast models featured not included. © Britt Allcroft (Thomas) Limited 1996.

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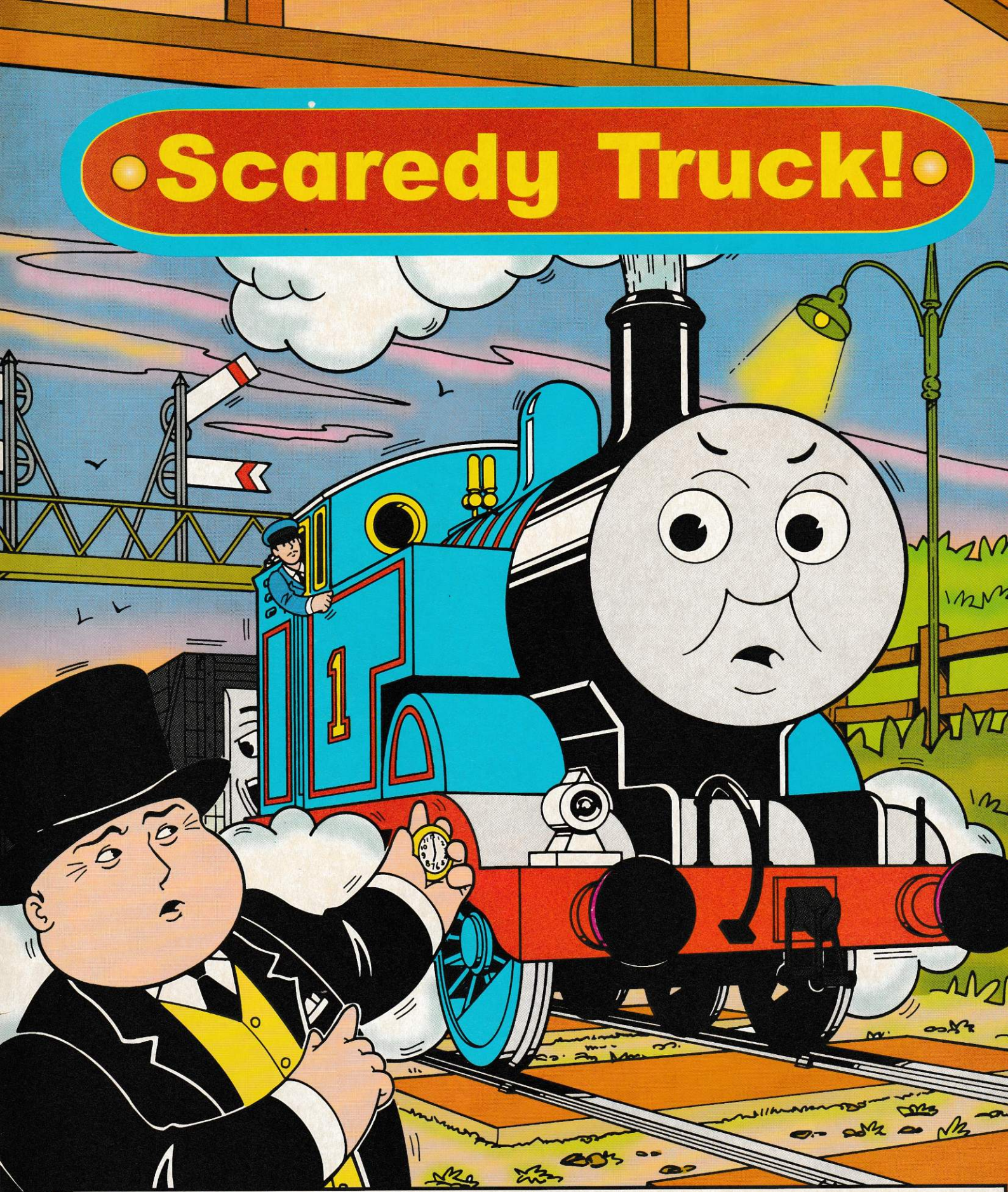
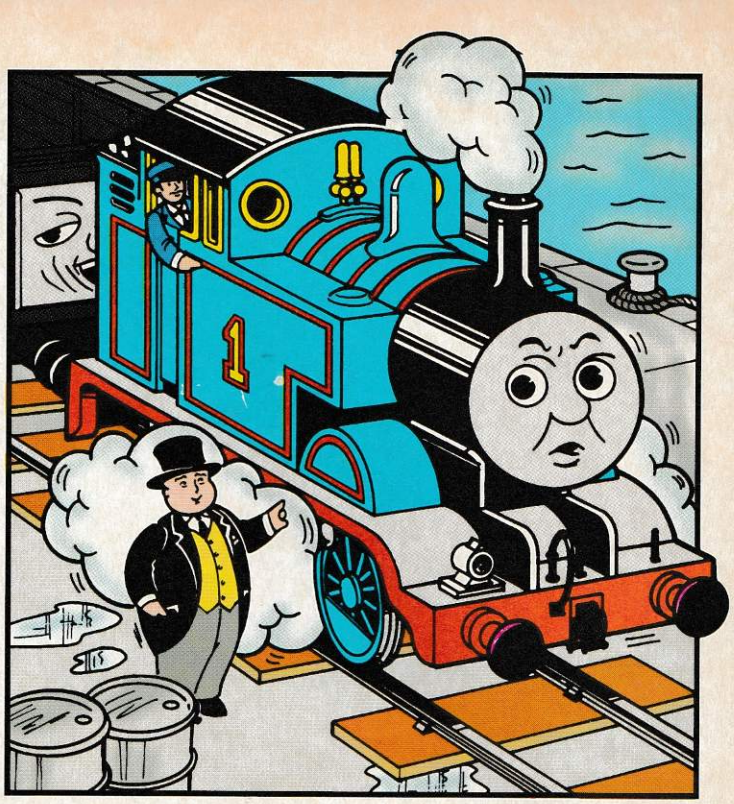
Scaredy Truck!



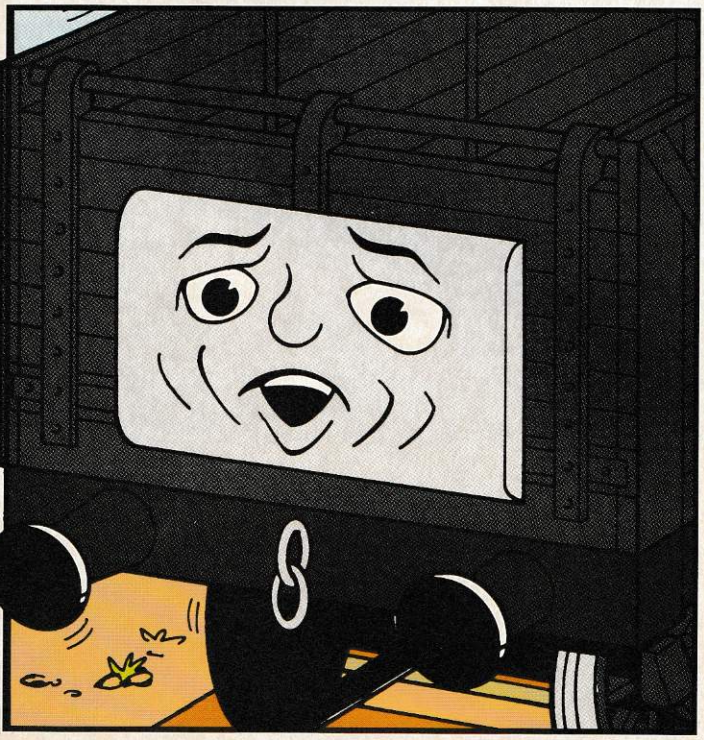
1. Oh dear! For the third night in a row Thomas was late back to the engine shed. He was quite upset because he was a keen worker and always liked to be on time.

2. It wasn't Thomas' fault. The Troublesome Trucks were always playing around. They thought of so many ways to make poor Thomas late, it was driving him off the rails!

3. That night Thomas didn't sleep very well. He was too angry and too upset. When he finally fell asleep he had a nasty dream about a huge, laughing, monster truck!

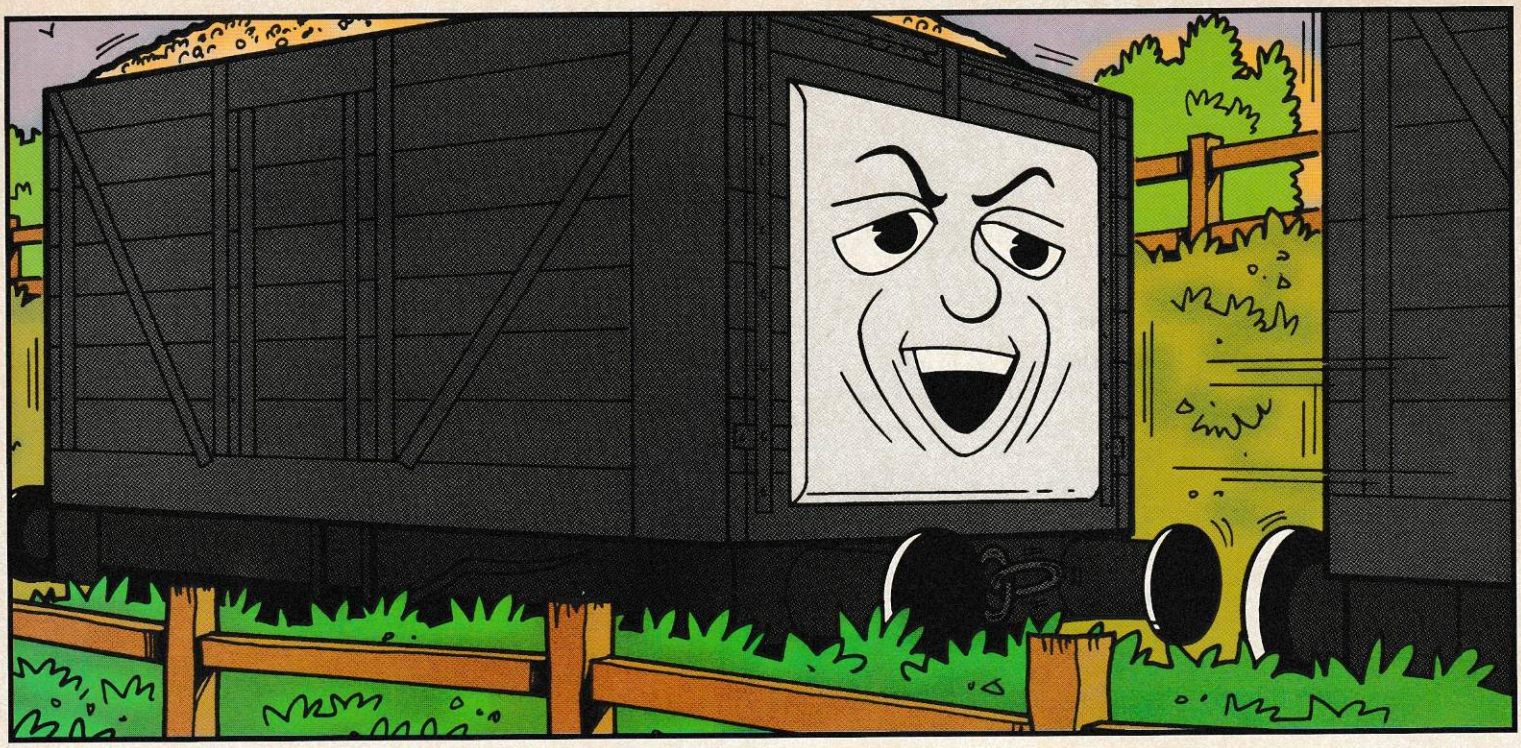


4. The next day, Thomas had an important job to do. He had to go to the docks with empty trucks to pick up a shipment of gravel. "Oh dear, not those Troublesome Trucks again!" he sighed.



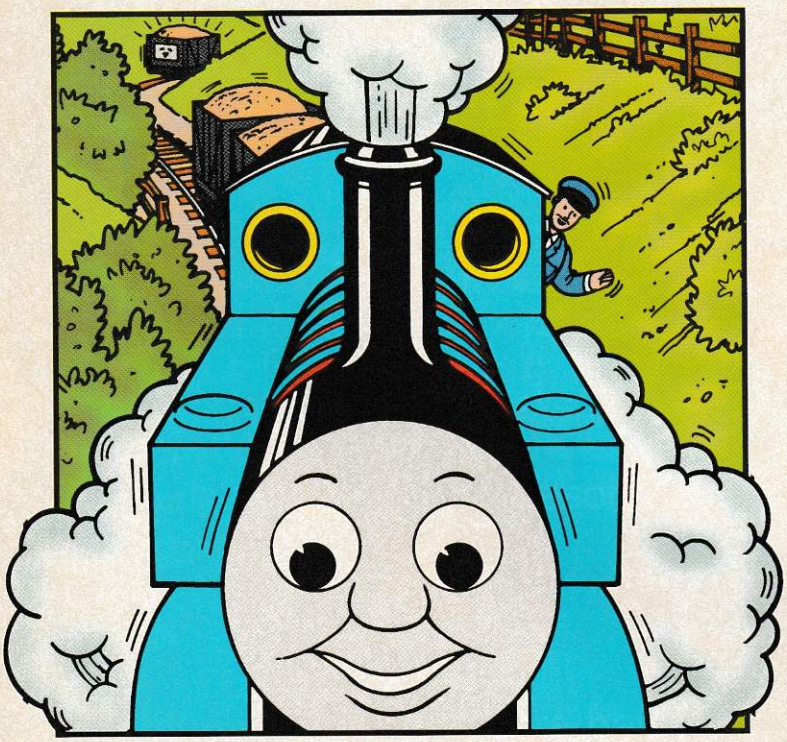
5. At the harbour the trucks started to complain. "Heavy gravel means hard work!" groaned one truck. "Horrible, itchy, scratchy gravel," grumbled another truck.

6. At last, the trucks were ready. Thomas went full steam ahead to deliver the gravel to the big builder's yard on Sodor. "What's the rush?" complained the trucks.

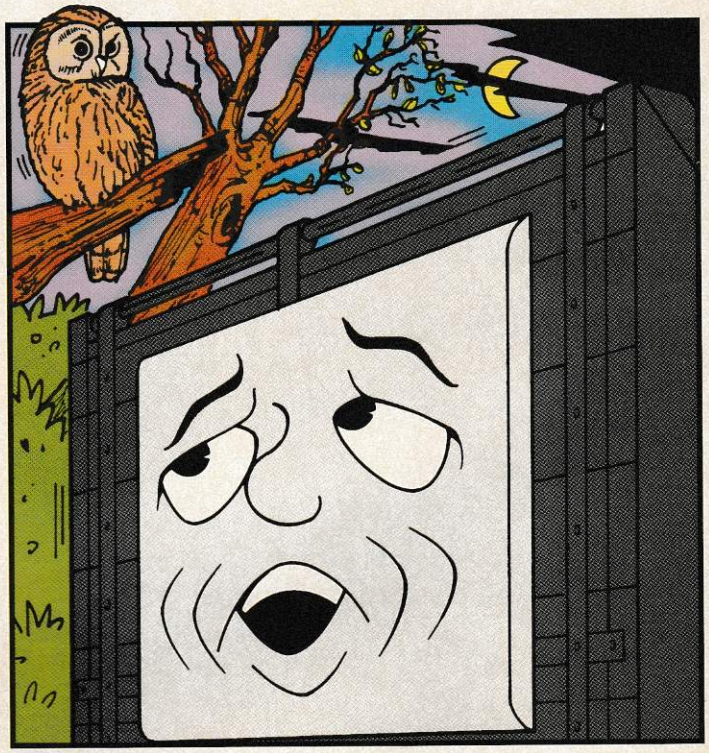


7.The truck's wheels started to squeak, their doors were rattling and they were being troublesome! The naughtiest truck was at the back and he had a naughty idea!

8. At the bumpiest part of the line the naughty truck uncoupled himself from the rest of the train. "That should slow Thomas down!" he chuckled as he came to a halt.



9. But his naughty plan didn't work. Thomas and his driver were so busy that they didn't even see that a truck had broken free. "Full steam ahead!" peeped Thomas keenly.



10. The naughty truck sat on the track for a long time. Night fell and the truck didn't like the dark! "T'wit T'wooo!" went an owl. "Help!" cried the scared truck. But no one came.

11. Early the next morning one of the men from the goods yard noticed that a truck was missing. "That's very strange," he thought. Then he did a count-up. "It's one of the gravel delivery trucks," he told the Fat Controller. Thomas was sent out to find the missing truck. He felt quite naughty himself. After all, losing a truck is quite a serious matter for an engine!

12. The truck was feeling sorry for himself when Thomas found him. He thought he had been left out all night on purpose. "I'll never be any trouble again, Thomas," he whimpered. "I was so scared on my own in the dark!" he added. "Well, be good and it won't happen again!" puffed Thomas sternly. "I'll be as good as gold for a whole week!" came the reply!

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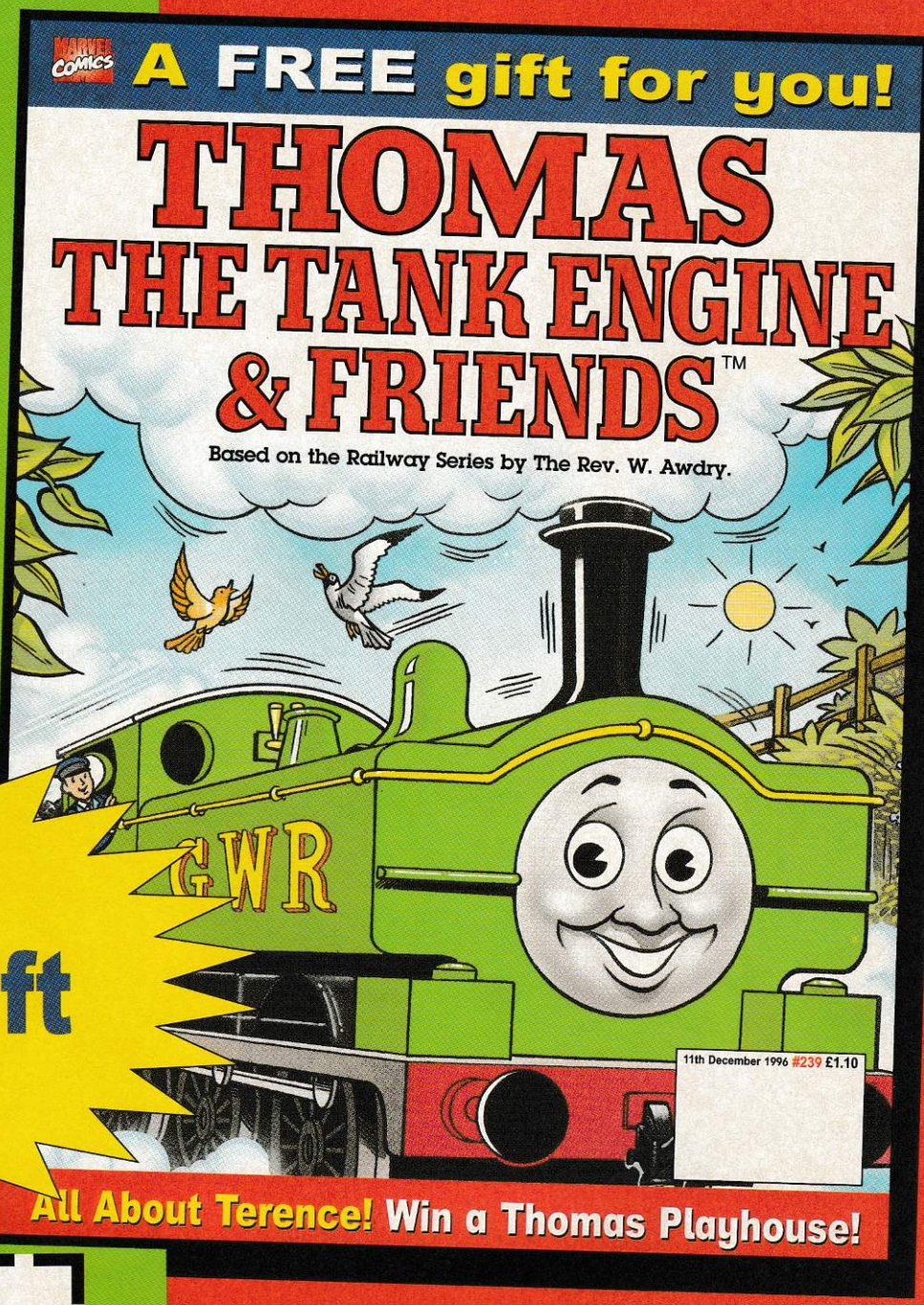
Activities & colouring!



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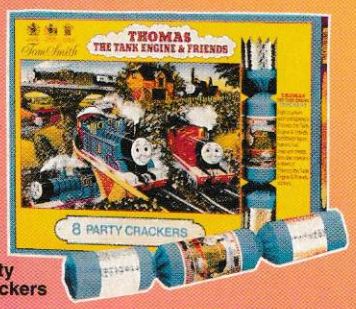

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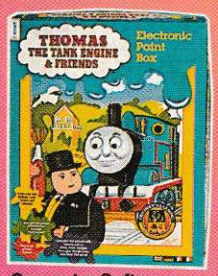

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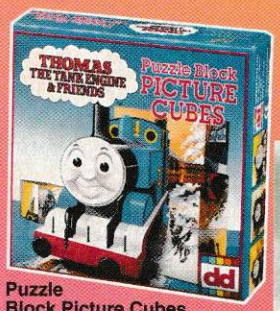

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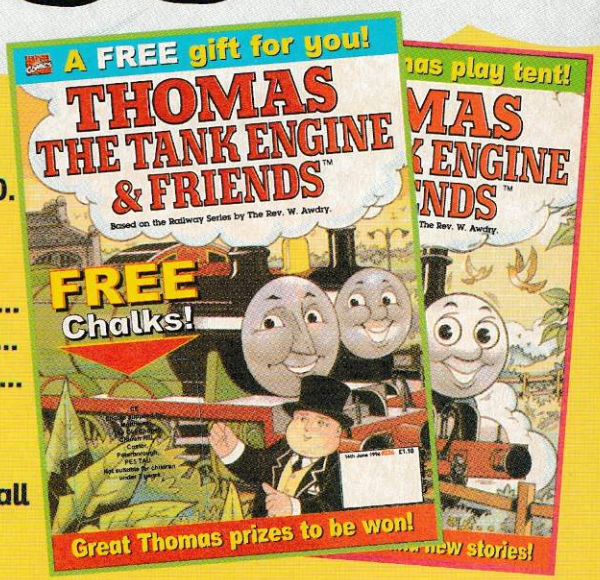

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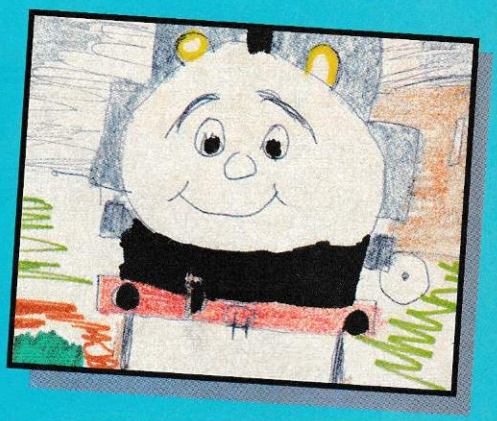


Cheeky Thomas from Cameron Couper, aged 5.

Star Letter

Dear Fat Controller,
Do Diesel and the Troublesome Trucks ever behave?

Love from Marc Stanley, aged 3.

No they don't! If they are being good, I worry what they are up to! It usually means they want something!

The sender of any letter that is printed as our STAR LETTER will win a Thomas remote control model!

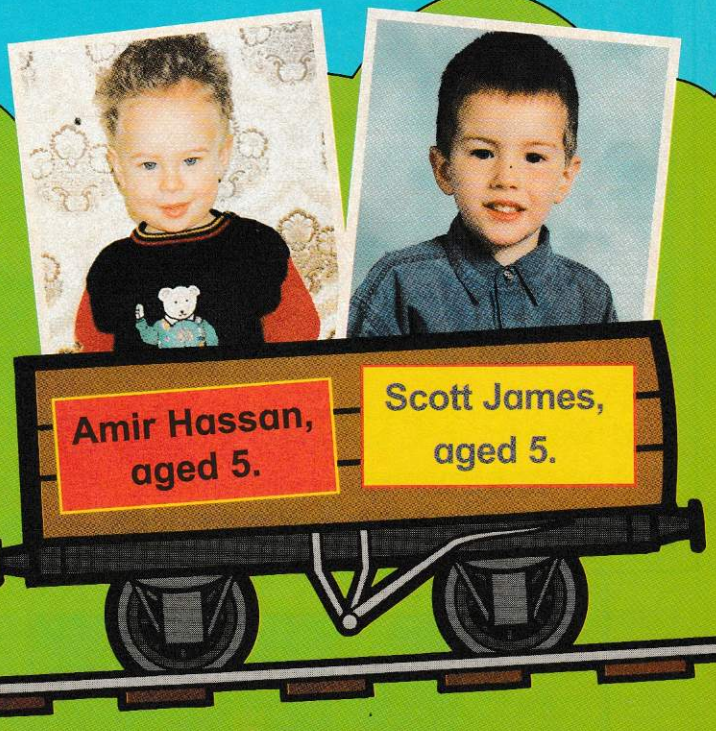
Prize Poem!

Thanks to James Nicholls, aged 9, for this funny poem.

One of Thomas' friends is Bertie,
The bus that doesn't want
to get dirty.
Bertie looks as good as new,
While little Thomas goes
"choo choo!"

Happy Birthday

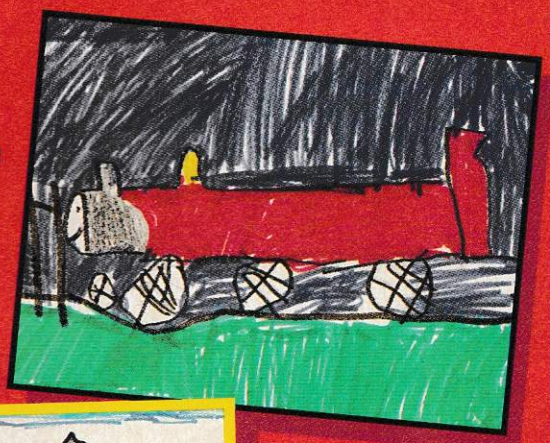
TO... Luke Rudge, aged 3,
James Ramsay, aged 4,
Martin Dodd, aged 7,
Rosalind Rachael, aged 8,
Julie Hebdige, aged 5.



ail train!

Anyone who has a drawing printed on this page will win a special **Thomas Changing Picture Book.**

A smart looking James from Alasdair Ferrie, aged 6.



Calum Woodward, aged 7, has drawn a splendid Henry.

Percy's Jokes

Have you got a favourite joke or funny story? Why not send it to Percy!

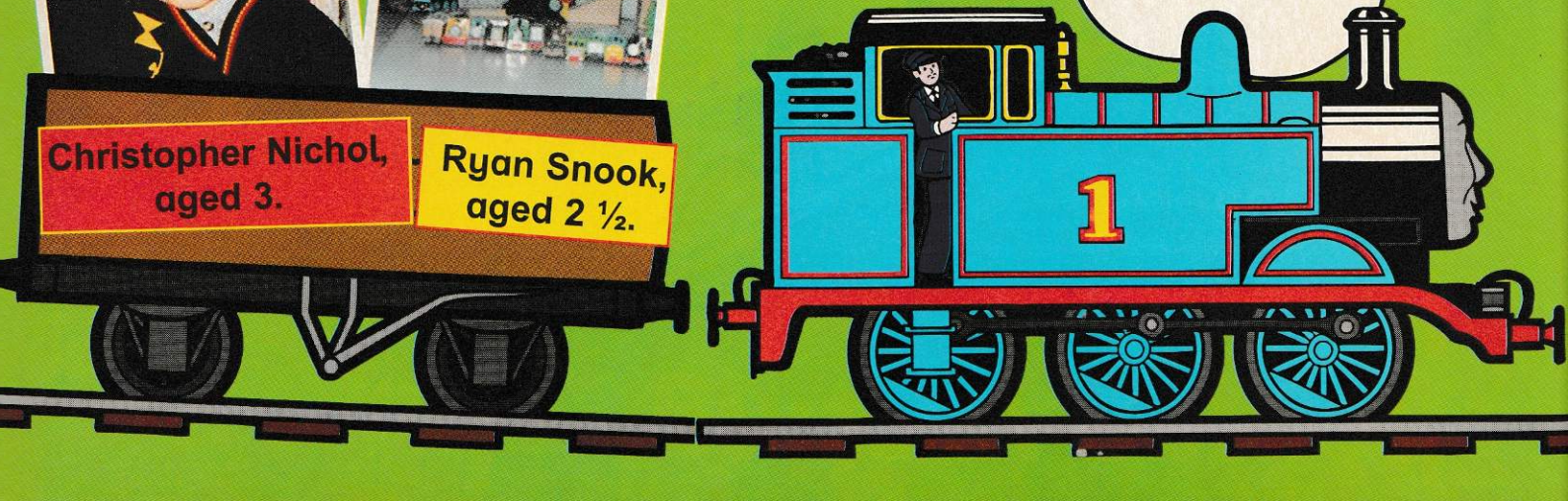
What do you call a polar bear in the jungle?
Lost!
Thomas Jagels, aged 5.

Who steals soap from the bath?
A robber duck!
Richard Jones-Mathias, aged 3 ½.

What's a meatball?
A dance in a butcher's shop!
Andy Morris, aged 4.

Christopher Nichol, aged 3.

Ryan Snook, aged 2 ½.



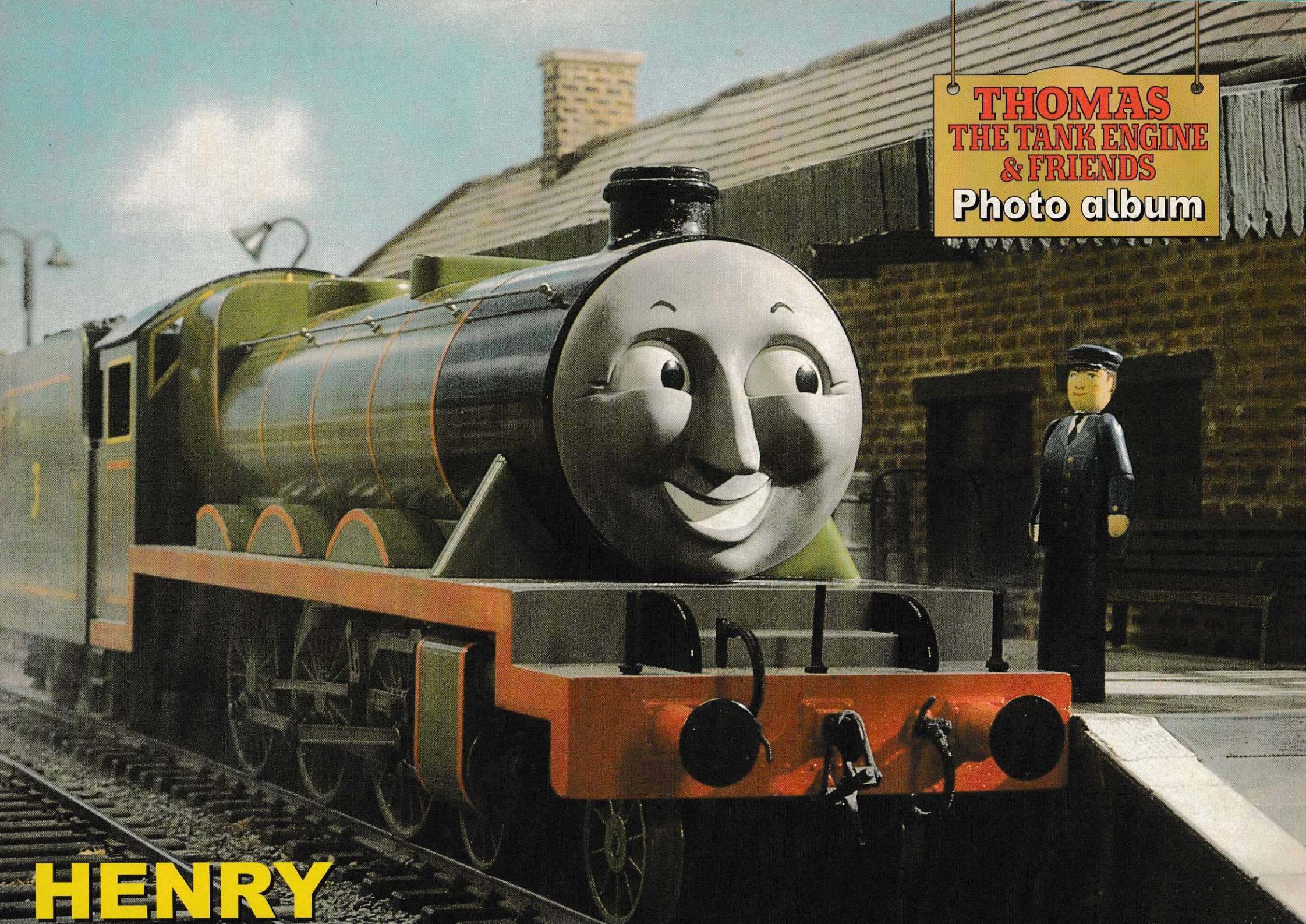

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Photo album
HENRY